

# Maclean's

Canada's Weekly Newsmagazine

September 27, 1999



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A Shock for Romanow

ENTERTAINMENT

Previewing the TV and Movie Seasons

## MOVE OVER

A new generation of native Canadians stakes its claim

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# One year later, we've changed the face of **Canada's** blood system



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Zane Ng  
Volunteer, Kincardine



Leahy receives  
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by-product, on a monthly  
basis. "Without it, my life  
wouldn't be the same."

Leahy Fraser,  
Recipient, Halifax

## A message to Canadians on our first anniversary.

Canadian Blood Services is now one year old. To mark this occasion, we want to thank Canadians for putting their trust in us and continuing to give the "gift of life." We could not have come this far without your support. We also want to thank dedicated volunteers and employees who along with donors, "make it all happen."

We made many commitments when we took over management of the nation's blood supply that were consistent with the recommendations of Mr. Justice Krieger. In honouring these commitments, we have created a system that is different than it was one year ago. You can see our progress outlined in our Report to Canadians, which is available from our web site at [www.bloodservices.ca](http://www.bloodservices.ca) or by calling 1-888-462-4056. Some of the most important improvements include:

**A safer blood supply.** In the past year we made the decision to implement a new screening test to detect Hepatitis-C and HIV that is more effective than previous tests used. We introduced a new filtering process to remove white cells, which often carry viruses and bacteria detrimental to the recovery of patients who receive blood.

And as always, we test every single unit of blood or plasma collected to detect any agents that could cause diseases to be passed on through blood. Canadian blood system is as safe as any other in the world.

We have a **more open blood system** than ever before. We broke a tradition of closed-door meetings by holding our first annual Open Board meeting in January. This degree of openness was unheard of prior to the formation of CBS. In addition, we held the first three of many planned public forums, where stakeholders and Canadians could communicate directly with us. We set up a web site where agendas and minutes from Board meetings are posted. And, we've continually worked with our media partners to ensure Canadians are informed of important decisions.

We have fulfilled other commitments as well, such as being more consultative. We have formed advisory committees composed of consumers, researchers, and scientists to review key decisions before they're made, and have invited experts and groups of consumers to make presentations at board meetings. And through all of the changes and decisions, we have maintained clear accountability. The CBS Board of Directors and Chief Executive Officer accept full responsibility for our actions and decisions.

But even as we celebrate today, we know that many challenges lie ahead. One of these is ensuring that adequate blood supplies for all Canadians are always available when needed. There are periods during the year, such as holidays, when there is an increased demand for blood that is often difficult to meet. Our goal is to make these shortages a thing of the past.

Are we successful? That's up to you. Because no matter what we do to make the blood supply as safe as we can, we will always rely on the generosity of Canadians.

If you are able to give blood, please do so. As for us anniversary presents go, there's nothing we'd rather have.

Kenneth J. Fife  
Chair, Board of Directors

Lynda Cranston  
Chief Executive Officer



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"My first donation was broadcast over the air on a local radio station. I was working for the station at the time and we were promoting a blood donor clinic in the area. I've been donating ever since."

Christopher Murth,  
Donor, Halifax



# This Week Maclean's

## Departments

20 Move over

## Features

## Special Report

*Saturday Rock* Mercer is one of the bright spots in a fall 1999 season featuring the usual doses of detectives, big shots and roms. But these Canadian-made kids' shows are terrific.

### 32 A shock for Romanow

Sukerdjawan's premier appeared headed for another majority government—until his opponent's army forces had their say.

## 72 The big screen heats up

After a summer of boring Modiglianis, the movies presented at the Toronto International Film Festival, one with model Claudia Schiffer, will be talked about for months.

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# This Week

## Columns

**Medicine in the Emergency Room /** *Journal of Emergency Medicine* 1996; 11: 1-10. This special issue contains 10 articles on emergency medicine. The first article, "The Emergency Room: A Review of the Literature," by J. H. Kohn, M.D., and J. H. Kohn, M.D., is a review of the literature on emergency medicine. The second article, "The Emergency Room: A Review of the Literature," by J. H. Kohn, M.D., and J. H. Kohn, M.D., is a review of the literature on emergency medicine. The third article, "The Emergency Room: A Review of the Literature," by J. H. Kohn, M.D., and J. H. Kohn, M.D., is a review of the literature on emergency medicine. The fourth article, "The Emergency Room: A Review of the Literature," by J. H. Kohn, M.D., and J. H. Kohn, M.D., is a review of the literature on emergency medicine. The fifth article, "The Emergency Room: A Review of the Literature," by J. H. Kohn, M.D., and J. H. Kohn, M.D., is a review of the literature on emergency medicine. The sixth article, "The Emergency Room: A Review of the Literature," by J. H. Kohn, M.D., and J. H. Kohn, M.D., is a review of the literature on emergency medicine. The seventh article, "The Emergency Room: A Review of the Literature," by J. H. Kohn, M.D., and J. H. Kohn, M.D., is a review of the literature on emergency medicine. The eighth article, "The Emergency Room: A Review of the Literature," by J. H. Kohn, M.D., and J. H. Kohn, M.D., is a review of the literature on emergency medicine. The ninth article, "The Emergency Room: A Review of the Literature," by J. H. Kohn, M.D., and J. H. Kohn, M.D., is a review of the literature on emergency medicine. The tenth article, "The Emergency Room: A Review of the Literature," by J. H. Kohn, M.D., and J. H. Kohn, M.D., is a review of the literature on emergency medicine.

The reasons we're asking you to run are all relative.



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# Editor

## 'Just Watch Me!'—and we did

It is mid-morning, Monday at the Toronto International Film Festival. The lights are down in the theatre, the second feature of the day is rolling and the audience is roaring with laughter. The subject? Pierre Elliott Trudeau, of course. The cause of the mirth—and, later, the emotion—is an engaging 75-minute documentary, *Just Watch Me: Trudeau and the 70s Generation*. It is a surprise hit of the 10-day festival and underlines the impact Trudeau had on a third generation—some of them grandchildren of early Trudeau supporters.

The documentary weaves around eight principals, all in their 30s today. They are "the Trudeau generation," a group of kids born in the early '60s who became bilingual and brought into his domain of a united Canada. At least one of them has become a hardened separatist. But in all cases, their reflections demonstrate the hold that Trudeau, who celebrates his 80th birthday next month, has on them still.

Some of their recollections are hilarious. John Duffy, a Toronto publicist, says he used to imagine Montreux "sitting around having absinthe and fantastic sex all day." Sylvain Morin, a unilingual Quebec City bartender, knew that Meg, McDonald's was Anglo the minute she walked in because of her big, beautiful, white teeth. She was a seigneur from British Columbia, in Quebec to learn French. He was a separatist. Eventually, they fell in love. His eyes fill with tears as he recounts how the 1995 referendum almost split them up.

The quick jump-cuts and the beat of several Canadian bands gives *Just Watch Me* a quick tempo, a sense of urgency and freshness. Clearly, these are not the same old talking



Trudeau at the 1970 Grey Cup: the dream lives

heads examining about the good old Trudeau days. This is the story of the thirtysomethings by 34-year-old director Catherine Annau, a Torontonians who got her MA in history at McGill.

For Annau, the turning point was the last referendum. "We were supposed to be part of the new Canada," she told me last week. "This was *also* a referendum. It felt like a vote on my identity." But once it appeared that "we were threatening to throw ourselves into anarchy," Annau put out the call for volunteers to appear before her camera, selecting her eight subjects from a long list of 400.

*Just Watch Me*, a National Film Board of Canada production, deserves to be shown in every movie house in the country. It provides no clear answers to the great dilemma of the day—why Canadians live under the threat of separation. And there is plenty about the failed promise of official bilingualism. But there also is a fundamental optimism that people of goodwill can make good things happen. Evan Adams, a Coast Salish from British Columbia and son of a chief, says that Trudeau's multicultural policies inspired him to think "in Canada there is a place for everyone and we can still work it out." Adds Annau: "We're a very romantic generation, Trudeau

was a very romantic figure. The dream certainly isn't working the way it was supposed to. But deep down in our hearts, we know we can't let it go."

Robert Lewis

## Newsroom Notes

### Fresh voices

This week's cover stories on younger natives involved Atlantic's correspondents across Canada. Halifax Bureau Chief John Deblanc contributed a pro-

file of a 24-year-old health-care worker in Nova Scotia; on the other coast, Vancouver Bureau Chief Chris Wood tackled the thorny issue of conservation. Ottawa-based Senior Writer John Geddes travelled to Winnipeg and Regina to interview aboriginals involved in business and law enforcement. The main story was written by Ottawa

Bureau Chief Bruce Wallace, who, with the help of Researcher-Reporter Shanda Denst, documented how the younger generation is breaking through old stereotypes (page 20). Says Wallace: "They are hungry for change—and all too often impatient with the status quo." The package was edited by Assistant Managing Editor Peter Kaprielian.



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## 'Celebrating jazz'

Diana Krall's success is based on numerous vocal talents, but choice of material, a warm, winning personality and, in part, her striking appearance ("Sweet seduction," *Cover*, Sept. 13). But what about her much under-estimated piano skill? I don't know whether her vocal career will one day surpass that of the legendary Nat Cole, but she plays better than almost anyone



Krall: It's all in here—with piano again

alive. If someone put together a team of every jazz pianist around, I guess Krall would be somewhere in the top 20 in the world. She just could! Gary Gauthier, Lenoire, B.C.

Many thanks for the articles celebrating Canadian jazz. Diana Krall brings fresh air to the music, which makes me

happier all day long, especially after listening to her magnificent live album on the way to work. She is going to be a huge woman for many talented players, who are madly waiting for applause in the sea of passively popular musical cacophony. So let's fall in love...with jazz again! Joseph Masarik, Winnipeg, M.B.

In June, 1998, Diana Krall put on a dazzling performance in Regina and won the audience. She has all of the attributes of a true Canadian soprano. Bill Bolander, Regina

## Roads and speeding

I am amazed at the number of people who blame the condition of the roads for serious accidents ("Disaster on an Ontario highway," *Canada Now*, Sept. 13). In my opinion, it is excessive speed and careless driving that are largely to blame. Despite the incredible loss of life and destruction of 60 vehicles in the recent carnage on Highway 401 near Windsor, Ont., drivers are still speeding on that same stretch of highway. Several cars have, since that accident, been ticketed at speeds in excess of 150 km/h. I would like to suggest that excessive speeders lose the use of their cars and the right to drive for a period of time. David Bawc, London Ont.

## Credit where it's due

Peter C. Newman's column of Sept. 13 about Onex Corp.'s bid for Air Canada and Canadian Airlines International Ltd. ("Gerry Schwartz has the right stuff") was welcome news, with one glaring exception. It reads "Schwartz trumped Vancouver businessman Jimmy Paterson in a bid for

## Taxes and musicians

The proposed levy on blank CDs and cassettes may be a good thing for well-known recording artists and their record companies ("A small price to pay," Charles Gordon, Sept. 13), but it comes as a kick in the snark to the many unsigned, independent bands who comprise the majority of Canadian musicians. It is extremely difficult to make a profit selling your own albums. Increasing the price of materials will make it even harder. Do we really need to take money from struggling artists to give it to those who are already successful?

Ken Goodwood, Prince George, B.C.

the location (B.C. Sugar Holdings") in fact, Paterson held all the cards and we were only successful in our bid because of his support and suggestion. Gauthier W. Schwartz, President and CEO Delta Tech Toronto

As a Canadian musician studying at Indiana University, I have had the opportunity to fly abroad many times, not to mention taken dozens of domestic flights that have carried my violin and me to Churchill, Man., Prince Edward Island, Victoria et al. I fly Air Canada or its partners, which are, in my mind, the best airlines in the world. I disagree with the proposed merger between Air Canada and Canadian ("Capital solution," *Canada*, Sept. 13). Canada needs two national airlines, to keep fares from skyrocketing and provide its citizens with a choice. However, I would like to see Canadian get back on its feet. What it needs is a CEO with vision, drive, fiscal responsibility and a very deep pocket. Perhaps Onex would consider leaving AC out of their dealings? David Gilmore, Kilmarnock Ind.

Gerry Schwartz would not be showing his hat into the ring just to bring better service and lower fares to Canadian travellers. There must be another motive—like profits. Hey, if I'm wrong here, then Schwartz is one hell of a nice guy. Maybe he's a stronger corporate bottom line and that's healthy. However, the consumer never seems to get their bang for their buck. Mike Murray, St. John's, N.S.

## Pain relief

Your cover story "Coping with pain" (Aug. 16) paints far too rosy a picture of what is happening in the field of pain medicine. Those professionals interviewed are attempting to change how pain is dealt with, but their numbers are too few. Our universities indicate that none of the major training hospitals in Canada has an organized curriculum designed to teach new medical students about pain. Other research indicates that students may receive from zero to seven hours of training depending on the school they attended. Chronic pain is a huge public-health-care problem in this country and will continue to be as our population ages. It may be ironic, but efforts to provide pain relief may be overshadowed by a much more visible and vocal movement that often only leads to an answer. The result is we are closer to having a national policy on euthanasia than to having one on pain relief.

Berry D. Usher, Executive Director, Chronic Pain Association of Canada, Edmonton



Worral: sympathy for the chore of dialysis

The article on infant pain management raises an unintentional ethical concern regarding the practice of abortion. You inform us that various medical studies reveal that not only infants but premature babies are capable of experiencing pain. Due to this recognition that the bodies of fetuses release hormones in response to pain just as children and adults do, researchers from

the Centre for Fetal Care in London, England, recommend that doctors give paralytics to the unborn before aborting them.

Nolan Norton, Pitt Meadows, B.C.

## Kidney donation

I can relate to Philip Worral's job of visiting the hospital three times a week to sit on a machine for four hours each time to clean out all the poisons in his body that his kidneys should have done for him ("The looming dialysis crisis," *Health*, Aug. 30). I, however, was blessed to have to go through this for only 2½ years. On July 7 this year, I received my first kidney transplant at London Health Sciences Centre in London, Ont., but, unlike Worral, I did not

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have to carry a beeper with me while awaiting the call. My wife was my perfect match and she did not hesitate to give me one of her kidneys so I could lead a normal life with her. We would just like people to be aware that you can lead a normal life with only one healthy kidney so that maybe more people will donate to help out the cause.

Joan Fox, Sudbury, Ont.

## Supporting the court

As a 17-year-old Canadian, I am once again dismayed and disgusted by critics who slam the Supreme Court of Canada for doing its job ("Activists in black robes," *Canada*, Sept. 6). University of Calgary political science Ted Morton, in accusing the court of "inflaming the passions of fanatics, gays and lesbians, and altogether" implies two deeply offensive attitudes. First, that working towards the equality of all Canadians is somehow wrong, and second, that the nine judges are doing so to the detriment of other Canadians.

These notions are linking and archaic in this day and age. Justice Beverley McLachlin is absolutely correct in pointing out that she and her colleagues only pass judgment on cases that are brought before them, as opposed to seeking causes out. The only shame here is that such intervention is necessary by the court so good along a government that is woefully behind public opinion on these issues.

Shirley Hunsbidge, Fort Smith, N.W.T.

## Eternity from a pew

It was enlightening and comforting to read that U.S. researchers at Duke University "calculated that non-churchgoers were 16 per cent more likely to die than those who attended services" ("Loving rights," *Health*, *Monsoon*, Aug. 23). Can we conclude from

the wording in the report that those who attended religious services regularly had extended eternal life?

Ralph Sawmills, Winnipeg

## The star of Oz

While I wholeheartedly agree with *Macdonald* that *Oz* is the best dramatic show on television by far, I disagree in his "no established stars among its ensemble cast" ("Master of a given universe," *Televisions*, Aug. 30). Surely as a performer in numerous movies including such classics as *West Side Story*, *The King and I* and *Stage!* in the 1950s, Rita Moreno deserves some mention. Her character on *Oz* provides one of the few counterpoints to the cruel but realistic world Tim Fournier has captured so brilliantly.

Michael Whitting, Leno, Que.



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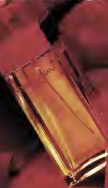
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## The gift sweater.

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## 'No new ventures'

It would be better if Canada Post would drop its traditional act before it starts out on new ventures ("Going e-postal," Business, Sept. 13). I have lived and worked in the Netherlands, Switzerland, Indonesia, Japan and the United States, and everywhere the postal system (even in Indonesia) worked better and more reliably than in this country. You stand out, *Maclean's*, on a fixed day in the week, but I cannot guess when it will arrive. Overseas magazines are even worse: sometimes I receive a last issue before the earlier one in weeks from Holland. I would gladly pay 25-per-cent more postage if the queues would be really reliable.

DON L. VAN NIPPE, Victoria

Every week when I read your magazine, I become increasingly uneasy at the number of articles devoted to advances with computers. Recent stories have focused on how companies are trying to cut billing and ordering online. Even Canada Post Corp. is jumping in. Whatever happened to people getting out of their houses and walking down the street to do some grocery shopping? Eventually, we will all become mindless zombies sitting in front of our computer screens, never breathing the outside air. Doesn't anyone else realize that I'm a second-year student at York University and I enjoy using the computer, but for me, it is just for homework, e-mail and occasional surfing for research. Our world, instead of being lost by use of new technology—like face-to-face conversations, etc.—is being held together by wires and cables. Why can't some things just stay the way they were?

VERONICA TAYLOR, Toronto

## Treatment of Indians

In quintessential 1990s politically correct style, D'Arcy Jenish again wonderfully Indian-apathetic rendition, complete with distracting misanthropic detail of the building and, indeed, misstatements of the policies used to hang

Wandering Spirit and seven other Plains Cree Indians in 1885 ("A grim end to defiance," The *Maclean's* Express, Sept. 13). However, Jenish evades the reason why these men were sentenced to death—they murdered in cold blood my great-great-uncle John Gosselock and eight other men: T. Quinn, J. Delaney, T. Dill, W. Gilchrist, J. Willis, C. Gossin, Father Laford and another Roman Catholic priest at Frog Lake on April 2, 1885. Plains Cree Chief Big Bear receives equal sympathy as yet another inmate of Canadian history. The *Maclean's* reader receives only a minimal amount of information about his crime. His charge of felony treason included the kidnapping of my great-great-uncle Thomas Gosselock and Theresa Delany, who were packed from their dying husbands' arms and dragged about for two months until their eventual rescue by the North West Mounted Police. Their book, *Ten Months in the Grip of Big Bear*, spends only six Victorian paragraphs of what amounts were done to the women, the misadventure of which, I suppose, Jenish would have related—if they hadn't been white slaves.

DALE MACMILLAN, Toronto

In the introduction to the book excerpt, you say that "pells show that a majority of Canadians support" the Liberal bid to "pardon Louis Riel for his role in the Northwest Rebellion" and declare him "a Father of Confederation." In the excerpt, you quote a newspaper report of a statement by war chief Wandering Spirit as saying that Riel "gave us liquor and said he would make war on this country," "asked us to join him in wiping out the Canadians," and that "if the government, which Riel claimed had owned him bodily, would not give him money, he 'would spill blood, plenty of Canadian blood.'" Later, Riel said: "that 'the half-breeds would not and kill all the whites.'" The Americans would come and "they the land" from the Indians for money, and afterward "helped the land of Canadians." Now tell me, really, why we should pardon Riel.

CHARLES HODGSON, Oshawa, Ont.





## Notes

Edited by Tanya Davies

## There is no literary place like home

**The fifth estate** co-host Linden MacIntyre has made the world his home during his acclaimed 35-year journalism career. But when he decided to write his first novel, MacIntyre stayed close to home. Not Toronto, though, where he lives with wife, Carol Off, a reporter with CBC TV's *The National* Magazine. Instead, *The Long Search* is set in rural Cape Breton, where MacIntyre lived until 1980. The journalist, whose father, Dan, was a hard-rock miner, grew up in Port Hastings, a small village three kilometres from the sea-life section of rural road from which the novel gets its title. "We lived close to the elements," says MacIntyre, 56, a four-time winner of the Gordon Sinclair Award, which goes to Canada's best overall broadcast journalist, "with a tactile awareness of what birth, death and suffering were all about."

The book, written largely in earthy, Gaelic-tagged Cape Breton dialogue, is, by the author's own admission, bleak.



MacIntyre in his Toronto office: a debut novel set in his native Cape Breton

But the pre-publication buzz—the novel will be released on Oct. 2—couldn't be brighter: MacIntyre has already been asked to read at the prestigious Harbourfront Reading Series in Toronto next month. Of course, MacIntyre knows the real world will have to wait until he returns to Cape Breton next summer to visit family when he finds out how his first fiction as fiction went over back home.

## Word for word

## Bennett on books

*Canadian publisher McClelland & Stewart threw a party last week at the Art Gallery of Ontario to celebrate the launch of its fall books. But one didn't slip: Anne Bennett, chairman and president of the firm, flew swirling many of the 800 guests into their own accounts about the book business. A few of the comments:*

**"The overall picture is daunting.** The corporate world in 1993 has two overriding concerns. The first is hogness and the second is globalism, a

without natural borders. Earlier, we saw Peugeot and Porsche merge, then Random House swallowed by Doubleday to become part of the German-based Bertelsmann empire. This concentration inevitably means fewer independent publishers making independent publishing decisions, and that's bad for any society."

"Concentration in the bookstore trade is another worrying trend. In what everyone tells us is a buoyant economy, our book sales should be flourishing. That's not what we see. In fact, the return of unsold books as a percentage of sales are up 12 per cent this year, and



Bennett: 'Inevitable'

that, we hear, is the same as other trade publishers."

"Canada is a separate market continues to erode. We pay for the exclusive rights to develop, publish and then sell, for example, Alice Munro's *The Love of a Good Woman*, in Canada. Yet our experiences proved that if you, from your Canadian address, ordered a copy of that book online from Amazon.com, you would receive the American edition. We conclude that we and other Canadian publishers are losing millions of dollars in sales that way, whereas Canadian consumers use a Web site outside the country, which I strongly urge you not to do."

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do more

### Distinct drive-ins

**News that** Cinescop Odron was shutting down its 10 remaining drive-in movie theatres provoked much nostalgia last week—except in Quebec, where drive-ins continue to flourish and will remain open. Industry insiders find the decline—in 1961 there were 238 drive-ins—for cause to explain that the success: "State-of-the-art mania," says Mike Davis, vice-



*The driver is only throwing in quarters*

president of marketing and communications at Citelec Colono, "have disambiguated the drive-in experience." But the real killer has been urban growth, which has seen drive-ins occupying less and less room to develop than to a national business. But Davies couldn't say why things are different in Quebec, where his company's 19 consumer surveys "consistently prove profitable." Quebecer Claude Chaboe, a 40-year vice-president with Cosplay Odéon in Montreal, is accustomed to the question: Studio heads in Los Angeles, says Chaboe, "are always asking me, 'What is going on in Quebec?' We're sharing down the market around America, and you're making it a lot more difficult for us to make it in Quebec; simply, we're distant." The tones of the Quebec population have often been different than the rest of Canada, says Chaboe. "So it's the same for the *jeunesse*."

### Best-Sellers

## Fiction

1. **PLANNING**, *Planning* (2)
2. **PLANNING IN THE PROPOSED DESIGN**, *Planning* (2)
3. **PLANNING IN THE PROPOSED DESIGN**, *Planning* (2)
4. **PLANNING IN THE PROPOSED DESIGN**, *Planning* (2)
5. **PLANNING IN THE PROPOSED DESIGN**, *Planning* (2)
6. **PLANNING IN THE PROPOSED DESIGN**, *Planning* (2)
7. **PLANNING IN THE PROPOSED DESIGN**, *Planning* (2)
8. **PLANNING IN THE PROPOSED DESIGN**, *Planning* (2)
9. **PLANNING IN THE PROPOSED DESIGN**, *Planning* (2)
10. **PLANNING IN THE PROPOSED DESIGN**, *Planning* (2)

### Nonfiction

1. **WALLA/WALLAH** *Protona* (Mars) (2)
2. **WALKING SPACE DARTBOARD**, *Melody* (Detroit) (3)
3. **WALLS FROM ECHO**, *Chie* (Detroit) (2)
4. **THE OTHER SIDE AND HANDS**, *Sylvia* (Detroit) (2)
5. **CHANGING HORIZONS**, *Protona* (Mars) (2)
6. **WALKING WITHIN AND WITHOUT THE LIMITS OF CRYSTAL BALLS**, *Protona* (Mars) (2)
7. **WALLS DROPPING**, *John* (Detroit) (2)
8. **WALLS IN SEARCH OF HORIZONS**, *John* (Detroit) (2)
9. **THE OTHER SIDE AND HANDS**, *Sylvia* (Detroit) (2)
10. **THE OTHER SIDE AND HANDS**, *Sylvia* (Detroit) (2)

LYONS, M. 2002. *Controlled by Fear: Refugees*.

### The unfriendly skies

**Timely reading** is millions of Americans fled Hurricane Floyd. *Shots of Fire* (Simon & Schuster) offers eye-popping accounts of the power unleashed by even routine storms. Among the stories of human endurance with the clearest provided by writer Thomas Searney and Patricia Barnes-Semay is that of USAF Lt.-Col. William



Rankin: Forced to eject from his jet above Norfolk, Va., in 1959, Rankin began a 60-minute tour of the inside of a thunderstorm. Winds repeatedly shot him up and back down, while even-thick shrouds of lightning flashed all about and so much water engulfed him that Rankin feared he would drown in midair. Miraculously, he made it safely to earth—exactly 100 km from where he built out.

## Passages

**Sworn in** Louise Arbour, 52, as a Supreme Court justice in a private ceremony in Chief Justice Antonio Lamer's chambers, in Ottawa. Arbour, a criminal law specialist, recently stepped down from her job as head of a United Nations tribunal on war



cricket. The swearing-in allows Ash to prepare for the coast's fall session that begins on Oct. 3; she will give a public speech to the coast in a welcoming ceremony the day before.

**Died:** Award-winning screenwriter Rob Foryth, 50, of cancer, in Stratford, Ont. Foryth wrote for a number of Canadian series, and won a Gemini Award for the CBC show *North of 60*.

**Died:** Harry Crane, 85, co-creator of the 1950s sitcom *The Hennesseys*, of cancer, in Beverly Hills, Calif.

**Died:** Boxer Cleveland (Big Cat) Williams, 66, after being struck by a car, in Houston. Williams was shot in 1965 by a Texas trooper after arguing during a traffic stop, but recovered to fight and lose to Muhammad Ali in 1966.

**Diehl**, Hall of Fame defenseman **Bill Quackenbush**, 77, is Newtown, Pa. The Harman native won the Lady Byng trophy in 1949 as the league's most gentlemanly player.

**Hired:** The Duchess of York, Sarah Ferguson, 40, is the royal reporter for the NBC morning show *The Today Show* in New York City.

**Awarded:** Five Canadian Country Music prizes to the family trio **The Williamses**, in Ottawa. The newcomers from Tillamook, Ore., father Steve, 43, daughter Amanda, 17, and son Tyler, 15, won awards for best song and single (*26 Cents*), album (*Nineties for Love*) and group of the year, as well as the rising star award for most promising act.

## EVENTUALLY EVERYONE RETIRES



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## Where have all the readers gone?

Since the *National Post* began publishing 11 months ago, the question on everyone's mind in the newspaper business has been: are there enough readers to support four Toronto-based dailies, two of them aiming for a national audience? A readership survey, obtained by *Maclean's*, indicates that the *Post* has secured a beachhead, being read by one in 12 adults in Toronto. But the validity of the data compiled by Newspaper Audience Database Inc., the main research arm of the Canadian newspaper industry, is being challenged by some of the papers. Despite Toronto dailies spending close to \$30 million in advertising, giving away upwards of 100,000 copies a day, and maintaining a rock-'em, sock-'em fight



Gravely with competing newspapers, a whispering campaign about numbers.

for months in the media, overall newspaper readership in the city has apparently declined by four per cent.

That perplexing discovery led Toronto-based NADbank to re-exam-

ine its data. An internal audit "didn't sum up anything to indicate that the numbers aren't representative," said Susan Ellsworth, a NADbank technical committee member. Even so, NADbank postponed to avoid Oct. 1 delivery of the figures that media buyers use to determine where they will put their client's money, especially for the busy Christmas market. Ann Boden, president of GMD, the largest ad-buying agency in Canada, said everyone in the business is "anxiously waiting for the numbers." We're expecting a few little surprises that will have a major impact on where we place most of our dollars.

NADbank's big loser is *The Globe and Mail*. According to the data, which now are to be officially released on Oct. 29, the *Globe* has lost 30 per cent of its share of the Monday to Friday audience in Toronto, falling from 14.2 per cent of adults in the Toronto region to just over 10 per cent. *The Toronto Star* has dropped from 36.2 per cent to 33.7, while *The Toronto Sun*, the splashy tabloid read by one in five Toronto adults, remains unaffected by the newspaper war.

And the downbook promises to get worse. *Globe* publisher Philip Conley wrote NADbank to say the "current high-pitched buzz" in the industry means someone is looking the confidential report. He told *Maclean's*: "Don't expect me to stay quiet over the

he can receive a fax at midnight, can e-mail a reply before anyone arrives at the office, manages to look buttoned-up and he's still in his bathrobe.

who is he sleeping with?



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## Opening Notes

rest six words of the other people aren't playing by the Marquess of Queensberry rules either."

"The whispering campaign about the numbers has already begun. The *Post* has been visiting some advertising agencies, boasting about the paper's prowess—without divulging its own single-digit Toronto readership figure (per cent)—and it raised its news page to declare that the *Globe* is afraid of the

survey results. Crawley dismissed the *Post* story as a "hatchet job" and instead refers to an Angus Reid survey, which indicated the established Toronto papers had misestimated their market share, despite the upstart's much-ballyhooed arrival last October. Gordon Fisher, the *Post*'s assistant publisher, says other research points to his paper clipping out the *Globe* in every major market except Winnipeg and

Ottawa, with the two papers tied in Ottawa. When told what the *Post* was saying, Crawley crowed: "Toronto is the one that matters. We will come out of NADBank as being the No. 1 paper at the top end of the Toronto market. We will have a bigger readership number than the *Post*, and we'll have a bigger reach across the country."

NADBank plans another survey for release in February, meaning Torontonians can expect the doornail-bank to ring on.

John Nicol

## Opening Notes

### Explorer



Fibian with window liner sampleproof

## A smashing sales pitch

ACE/ClearDefence Inc.'s security laminate window liner resembles a paper-thin, transparent sheet of plastic. But it is strong enough to defeat a thief with a baseball bat or minimize the damage caused by terrorist car bombs. Ottawa businessman Peter Fibian, president of ACE/ClearDefence, acquired exclusive manufacturing rights for the liner from its German inventor in 1991, and spends about \$1 million a year breaking windows and blowing up automobiles to prove its strength. Last week, at a demonstration held at a quarry 80 km north of Toronto, Fibian began by shattering an ordinary sheet of glass with one swing of a bat. He then took three powerful swings at a pane lined with his company's product, leaving it badly cracked but intact. When a 3.6-kg bomb ripped apart an automobile, two windows lined with security laminate just 4.5 mm away from the car sustained only a single crack. The high-strength liner—which costs \$10 to \$15 per foot—contains titanium flakes and acrylic and polyester resins, all compressed according to a patented process. ACE/ClearDefence currently sells \$30 million worth of the liner annually to security-conscious governments and military establishments in 15 countries, including the United States, Korea and South Africa. And the company has re-

cently achieved a domestic breakthrough: the federal government has awarded it a contract to install the product in the Parliament Buildings in Ottawa.

## Click and save

It is the old mail concept of the clip-and-save coupon adapted for the digital age. Vancouver-based SUMmedia.com has signed up 2,100 businesses in the greater Toronto and Vancouver areas to post their discount coupons—5,000 as of last week—on the company Web site. Consumers digitally clip the coupons by printing them and presenting the print-out to merchants. The retailer, who pays \$400 a month for each coupon, are divided into 21 categories and 85 sub-categories, such as automotive and entertainment, and SUMmedia will soon add Edmonton and Calgary to the service. It also has its sights set on the United States and Australia.

## Monitoring a baby's movements

Sudden infant death syndrome is a medical mystery that has long baffled doctors, and frightened parents. It has also led to the popularity of electronic monitors that capture the sound of a child's breathing in the crib and transmit it to a portable receiver. Now, Angel & Co., a Montreal-based designer and manufacturer of children's products, has developed a receiver to detect motion, as well as sound, and to alert parents of potential trouble. The Angelcare system comes with a standard transmitter and receiver, and costs \$150, compared with regular monitors that retail for approximately \$50. But the Angelcare is also equipped with a 25-by-40-cm motion sensor pad that is placed under the crib mattress. It is capable of detecting the smallest movements, even an infant's breathing. The portable receiver makes both a ticking sound and flashes a green light each time the baby moves. An alarm bell sounds if the infant stops moving for 20 seconds.

D'Arcy Jewish

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Barbara Amiel

## Jews and Sunshine

Sept. 17, 1999. Yan Kipper. 5700/2000. Each year at synagogue as we mourn for our dead, I try to understand why the Jews have been hated with such persistence in so many cultures over so many centuries. Curiously, this year it may be popular culture that sheds a bit of light on the question.

Couch's *Visary Fair* has an excerpt from Vatican expert John Cornwell's forthcoming book, *Hitler's Pope: The Secret History of Pius XII*. The book claims to have uncovered new facts about Pius XII's alleged anti-Semitism. The most significant evidence cited is a letter described as a "true bomb" lying in the Vatican archives. This letter was written from Munich by pope's nephew Eugenio Pacelli (later Pius XII, 1939-1958) to the Vatican. It was 1919 and Germany was in chaos. The clerical social democrats were trying to avert Marxist revolutionaries fighting to proclaim a Soviet republic. Pacelli's letter describes the scene at the palace in Munich taken over by revolutionaries under their leader Eugen Leviné.

"The confusion," he writes, "totally chaotic, the fifth completely assassinated... the building, once the home of a king, surrounded with screams, vile language, profanities... a gang of young women, of dubious appearance, Jews, like all the rest of them, hanging around in all the offices with provocative demeanor and suggestive smiles. The loss of this female gang was Leviné's misfortune, a young Russian woman, a Jew and a divorcee, who was in charge."

This quote is cited as proof of the future pope's anti-Semitism. But while there are grave questions to be answered about Pius XII's silence during the Second World War, I can't see how this 1919 letter condemns anti-Semitism. At an observation, the letter was at worst an exaggeration. If the bad women "Jews, like a disproportionate number of them," he would have been quite accurate. Jews did feature in wildly disproportionate numbers among early communists and revolutionaries.

Most institutions, past and present, wrongly believe that they can support, tolerate or use violence to fight against. I suspect that in the 1930s, Pius XII saw communism as a greater threat than Nazism and acted accordingly. His separate reaction that one would have hoped that the church's, being in the business of morality, might have been an exception to the rule. But the germane point here is that Jews were not only seen as Christ killers but also as the enemies of democracy. Indeed, we were at the leading edge of communist totalitarianism, one of the most murderous movements of the 20th century.

It's a different matter that we were also at the leading edge of those fighting it. A quite remarkable insight into this phe-

nomon took place in last week's Toronto International Film Festival. I cannot speak highly enough of the importance of the film *Sunshine*, the story of three generations of Hungarian Jews that premiered at the festival. This is a film of incredible sensitivity, tackling major themes about the evolution of good intentions into totalitarianism and—for the first time—the similarities between Nazism and communism. Here is the tale almost every Jewish family knows in one form or another: the hardworking grandfather begins the liberal son who begins the avowedly gay grandson. The film covers 1890 to 1990 and though it could have been told through the eyes of a grateful family, it seems to me best to do it through a Jewish family. Because in some very curious ways, Hungarian Jews, like Jews throughout time, have been disproportionately represented at the edge of some of the finest and nastiest moments of humanity.

In my lifetime, with the obvious exception of Nazism, it's hard to think of any political or artistic movements in which Jews have not been automatically over-represented—from the 1930s Weathermen to more positive areas of public policy and the arts. It was difficult to be a member of the Black Panther, but Jewish support of them gave us Redd Foxx. There is no greater influence on popular culture than Hollywood, and Hollywood is almost synonymous with Jewish overrepresentation. None of this is bad, though anti-Semitism is to make hay out of it and the politically correct try to deny it. Progress Jews continue to be drawn to ill-skill—their totalitarianism of the politically correct neo-fundamentalism and their allies. Similarly, they are drawn to the flame ritualization of propaganda and philosophy. If gentiles tend to keep their heads down and make no waves, Jews seem to live the passions of words in a flame—a first attraction to the firelight of the leading edge. And in the past 100 years, these nations have included as much bad as good. Which may be why we are so often disliked.

The popular explanation is that our attraction to ideas is because we are a people of the book. I think it is because outside Israel we live with the feeling, perhaps subconscious, that we are pawns in the countries we inhabit. As a group without a franchise, we have a basic interest in a just and equitable society and so look on to appeals from liberals to totalitarianism that promises justice. Justice is as our self-interest.

Perhaps the world will come to see that if we are so often at the leading edge of bad ideas, we are also among the greatest victims of those same ideas. I don't know. All I can do is pray and ask God to insulate us all in his book with understanding and patience.

# MOVE OVER

A new generation of younger natives is coming into its own—and flexing its powerful muscles

By Bruce Wallace

It took the father and son four months to paint their masterpiece. A kaleidoscope of colours shoots from the wheel-like light at the centre of Alex Janvier's gleaming mural *Morning Star*. Featured on the domed ceiling of the Museum of Civilization's Riser Gallery in Hull, Que., the abstract work tells the history and hopes of native peoples. Janvier is one of Canada's greatest modern artists, a Chipewyan from Alberta, and he painted *Morning Star* during the summer of 1993, on specially rigged scaffolding 27 metres off the ground. His son, Dean, then 23, was his self-described "paint-by-numbers assistant" and all-purpose helper who lugged paints and brushes up to his dad. There, screened from visitors by a tarpaulin hung to catch paint drips, the two men worked, and laughed and created. "It was well against wall," the older Janvier says of those months. "We just about killed each other some days."

Further and son both say *Morning Star* produced a personal reconciliation of sorts by the time it was finished. But their political stance is different in their ages. Alex Janvier was one of the country's early Indian radicals who went on to channel his politics into art. For many years, he signed his paintings with a banner "287"—his government assigned treaty number. Dean sees himself less an activist than a political philosopher, a fearless advocate for unshackling his generation of natives from the culture of ac-

commodation they have inherited. "I don't want to let Canadians off the hook for our dirty history, but we can't always be talking about what's wrong—that just doesn't drop it," he says over coffee in an Ottawa mall near his job as an aide to the Assembly of First Nations. "I used to be angry and blame governments for failing us. But we've got to start showing some progress so young people don't feel so helpless about the future."

The stories of generations cannot, of course, be written across the hours of two men. Relationships between fathers and sons are bound in their own rhythms. But the Janvier speak, in part at least, to the ethnic shift occurring within Canada's native communities. Power is beginning to pass to younger natives, much of their strength coming from the sheer weight of their numbers. They are comfortable with and proud of their native roots. But there is a hurdle being waged within that generation: a fight between those who believe they can succeed in the sea of white values without surrendering their native identity, and those who insist cultural survival depends on staying resolutely separate.

It is a big and brassy generation. Unlike Canada's slowly aging white population, 62 per cent of the country's 759,000 aboriginals are under 20, with fertility rates much higher than the Canadian average. "We are becoming more and more powerful through the power of many," says Leela Gidley, 24,

*Morning Star* (left) Rises with sons (left) and (right) many reveal from the natives of native politics, and blame older leaders for folding while the cycle of hardship continues



But selling mainstream success in native culture is an un-



It has always been hard to leave the reserve and come back. Those who left communities in the 1970s and 1980s all achingly similar tales of being ostracized on their return, accused in those days of being an "apple"—red on the outside but white inside. Former NHL player and coach Ted Nace, an Ojibwa from Ojibwa, remembers the cold shoulder he'd gotten from his friends when he would return each summer from playing hockey down south. "They'd thought you left them," he says. The term is less prevalent today (in fact, some natives now use "apple" to describe those who use their old den of

Even those who are comfortable with their own choices realize the magnitude of the challenge. Beach sees himself as someone who can help heal wounds but has no illusions.

If first comes a generational gap, it should also warn older leaders they have only just begun to feel the push from below. "Somebody, they will realize that what we did was not enough," says Alex Janner about the contributions of his generation. "But maybe it's time to get the ball out, sit back in a rocking chair, light up a cigar, and let others go to work." Adorn Bush with the challenge. He dreams of a native version of the African-American Million Man March. "Not to say 'Give us this,' " he says, smiling and leaning forward. "To say 'Here we are, and here we are.'"

With Shonda Derrail in Toronto



*Leptocarpus* sitting  
around in native  
communities is at  
times an aphid too



# Building New Bridges

Across Canada, younger natives are reaching out in a variety of different fields

*In diverse fields such as health care, business, law enforcement and conservation, younger aboriginals are setting new directions. Vancouver Business Chief Chris Wood, Halifax Business Chief John DeHaven and Senior Writer John Givolis, along from Winnipeg and Regina, profile five who are making their mark*

## A SENSE OF PRIDE

**Art dealer** Jacques St. Goddard got his start a long way from the world of chic galleries. In a dingy underpass in Winnipeg's hard-scrabble North Main district, he assembled leaders, paint buckets and six aboriginal artists for his first project three years ago. Funded partly by the city, the plan was to paint murals to inject some pride into a neighbourhood notorious for its native youth gangs, prostitution and poverty. It was a compelling undertaking, though hardly a glamorous one. St. Goddard recalls having to persuade one possibly not so artistic against the wall his artist were busy decorating. But other North Main denizens soon warmed to the project. "There was a sense of pride building," St. Goddard says. "Towards the end, there would always be five or six people from the neighbourhood watching the work."

The project left a troubled neighbourhood with a hopeful new landmark—and St. Goddard with a taste for the role of impresario. He had come up with the mural idea after a short

stint with a non-profit Winnipeg agency for native artists. When that group fell apart, St. Goddard saw an opportunity for a commercial venture. "There was an overflow of artists trying to find an outlet for their work," he says. In 1997, he incorporated Canadian Plains Gallery and set up shop in the aboriginal centre that occupies the deserted 1904 Canadian Pacific Railway Building, just a few blocks from that now-resplendent underpass. His stable of painters, sculptors, even powwow dancers and models, has now grown to nearly 200.

The profusion of native creative talent is nothing new. But in the past, aboriginal artists typically saw their career managed and their work sold by non-native entrepreneurs. St. Goddard, 29, is a Métis who grew up in the community of St. Laurent, with a population of about 1,020, on the shore of Lake Manitoba. He hopes bringing an aboriginal perspective gives him a competitive advantage in the business of native art. And as a native entrepreneur, St. Goddard has seen doors open before him that might have remained closed to a novice non-native art dealer. Invited to join the Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce's trade development committee, for example, he is now using contacts he made to begin planning for an art show in Tokyo.

Support from government agencies set up to foster aboriginal enterprise has already given St. Goddard international exposure. Funding from Aboriginal Business Canada,

a federal agency, allowed him to travel with a group of artists to Germany for an exhibition last year, after which he scrambled to make flight connections to fulfil a Manitoba government contract that took his troupe of powwow dancers to Brazil. St. Goddard's bagging to drink in terms of a global marketplace. "Native art is known around the world, West Coast art is known around the world, but art is known around the world," he says. "As far as this region goes, we must be 10 years behind in terms of promoting our culture."

St. Goddard's generation of native entrepreneurs will have a key advantage in realizing their ambitions: they are backed by growing pools of capital. From Nanaimo to British Columbia, massive land-claim settlements are transferring billions of dollars into aboriginal hands. Institutions that will invest that money are now being developed—and they are eagerly looking for native-owned firms to bankroll. In one key example, the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians and the Saskatchewan Indian Equity Foundation, with Toronto Dominion Bank as their partner, have created First Nations Bank of Canada. TD Bank is providing expertise and financial clout at the outset, but the goal is to create an independent, national bank, owned by aboriginal groups across Canada, by the year 2006.

Still, there are lingering doubts about how quickly a stable aboriginal business sector can emerge. For entrepreneurs like St.

*St. Goddard, shedding of his Winnipeg business as part of a transformation*

Goddard, after all, the transition from traditional to commercial culture has come with a single bound. "I grew up trapping, scuba-fishing, hunting, checking my status in the morning," he says of his childhood, not so many years ago, back in St. Laurent. After graduating from high school, he worked in construction in Alberta, then returned to Manitoba where a community college program in arts management set him on his current path.

Lately, St. Goddard says he has begun to think of his business as part of a renaissance of Winnipeg's urban aboriginal community. But he admits there is a long way to go. "Any day of the week," he says, "you can see restaurants and [adult] outlets walking by out any gallery windows." If they keep walking, though, they will pass by the mural that St. Goddard hopes are a sign of better days to come.

## HIGH STAKES

**The most important figure in** Lesley Knockwood's life is her 63-year-old grandmother, Virginia, a calm, efficient grey-haired woman who raised her and 11 other family members in a small home on the Indian Brook First Nations reserve, 60 km north of Halifax. So it is no coincidence that the two women live next door to each other on the Mill Creek settlement of 1,800. And that when it came time to choose a career path, Knockwood followed the family matriarch's example: the two women now work side by side as community health representatives at the Indian Brook Health Centre. "I grew up watching my grandmother take care of everyone who got sick in our family," Knockwood, 24, explains. "I guess it rubbed off," because for as long as she can remember, she wanted to do the same thing.

The job offers immense satisfaction—and daunting challenges. When Indian Brook residents send hands-on care, they call the centre's community health nurse. But Knockwood and her grandmother are still on call 24 hours a day. Providing pre- and postnatal care for mothers and their offspring, and ensuring that seniors and seniors get the attention they need helps keep the pair busy. But most of their working hours are spent trying to educate the residents of Indian Brook, and counsel them to alter their lifestyles and slow the alarming rates of diabetes, heart disease and high blood pressure that plague native communities across the land. "I call it a cross," says Knockwood,



## 'I got into this because I wanted to help all people, but I feel fortunate to be able to help *my* people'

who is single and has lived most of her life on the reserve.

It's a crisis that defies an easy cure. The realities behind the epidemic of chronic disease on native reserves—lack of exercise, poor diet, excessive smoking, grinding poverty and substance abuse—are well-known thanks to countless government, academic and scientific studies. And improving native health is enough of a priority in Ottawa that the February 1993 federal budget committed \$190 million over three years to new home-care programs and more extensive health monitoring in aboriginal communities. Yet for all that, the proved goal contained in the federal government's 1979 Indian Health policy—raising the standard of health within native communities to levels comparable with the rest of Canada—still seems light-years away. "It's sad," laments Allen Delaney, director of the Assembly of First Nations' health resources. "All that time and things have only gotten marginally better."

How bad is the state of native health? Canadian aboriginals smoke at twice the rate of the general population. They are many times more likely to have diabetes, cancer, heart disease, hypertension and arthritis than other Canadians. Nearly half of them feel their health facilities are substandard. The infant mortality rate among natives is still 17 times the national average. Native men on reserves can expect to die seven years younger than other Canadians, while the life expectancy for native women is six years less than the national norm.

**The situation could get even grimmer with the current aboriginal baby boom.** The First Nations and Inuit population is expected to rise from 811,000 now to more than one million in the next 20 years. The population surge is already straining the capacities of communities and governments to cope. One chilling example is Big Cove, a Mi'kmaq reserve 100 km north of Moncton, N.B., where 90 per cent of the 2,200 residents are under the age of 18. There, the unemployment rate seldom drops below 80 per cent, drug and alcohol abuse runs rampant and feelings of despair—particularly among the young, who envision no future beyond an endless cycle of poverty and addiction—hang over the community. In the past seven years, 16 youths gave up and committed suicide. Chief Robert Levy says that hundreds more either contemplated ending their own lives or tried and failed. "We do our best, but it is not enough," explains Levy, 43. "The griefs are filling up with our young people and it seems like there is nothing we can do about it."

Increasingly, people are trying to care for their own health woes. This movement has coincided with a shift in policy at the Medical Services Branch, the arm of Health Canada created in 1949 to tackle the aboriginal health question. Fifty years later, the branch's \$1-billion annual budget

still funds on-reserve home care, post-school education, nutrition programs, and pays for addiction counsellors, AIDS workers and community health representatives like Knockwood and her grandmother. But since 1986, the professed goal of the Medical Services Branch has been to empower native communities to take greater control over the creation, administration and delivery of health-care services. "Our role," says Delaney, director of the Medical Services Branch's health programs support division, "is to put the tools in the hands of people at the community level so they can solve their problems."

Native leaders complain that the transfer is taking too long—and that nothing will fundamentally change until the federal government does something about the poverty and hopelessness natives feel are the root causes of so many health problems. But the people in the trenches, like Lesley Knockwood—who reports to the local band council rather than a federal Ottawa bureaucracy—welcome the challenge of assuming power over their own lives. In Indian Brook, for example, 90 people suffer from diabetes, for Knockwood, that is more than just a statistic.

Her grandmother and grandfather, John, also a leader in the local Mi'kmaq community, both have diabetes, and the family diet may be predisposed to the disease through to be triggered by poor diet and lack of exercise. "I'm doing the same things we tell everyone to do—watching my weight, trying to get more exercise, trying to change how I live," says Knockwood, who has taken long-distance university courses and this month began a correspondence course to become a nursing assistant. Getting people in better, she admits, can still be hard—old patterns, after all, do not die easily. But the stakes are too high for discouragement. "I got into this because I wanted to help all people," she says. "But I feel fortunate to be able to help *my* people." However long the odds look.

### RECLAIMING LOST GROUND

**Salmonberries** dangle in rubies hanging shoulder-high over the shallow middle of Musqueam Creek. In the small clearing where Wilfred Sparrow, 51, goes to catch the creek's condition, a high canopy of spruce and cedar foliage adorns the summer sun and the air is moist and fragrant with growing things. Through the dense shrubbery, even the urban roar of morning rush hour beyond the small Vancouver park that protects the waterway is muted. A sudden burst of birdsong



Virginia (left) and Lesley Knockwood, a job that offers numerous satisfactions as well as daunting challenges

adds a fluted sound track to the murmur as Sparrow gleans at a peck barely three metres away. "This is life, the natural world in this area," he says. Then he adds, wistfully, "There are a lot of flaws here."

The fate of the tiny creek could be a metaphor for the fortunes of Sparrow's Musqueam people. A little more than a century ago, it was one of 50 urban streams bubbling down from the forested slopes that would become the city of Vancouver, urbanism in shambles toward Musqueam fishermen who ranged over most of the Fraser River Delta. Now the creek is the only place in the city wild salmon still venture every other creek having been filled in or driven underground into culverts and sewers. The Musqueam's traditional lands, meanwhile, have been reduced to three small reserves. Musqueam Creek runs through the largest, on the north bank of the Fraser River near the University of British Columbia campus, it is only 165 metres in size.

In the past decade, though, both band and waterway have begun to reclaim lost ground—not always quickly. The 1,000-member band is locked in a bitter, high-profile standoff, with scores of non-native tenants on its land, over increases the band has sought in annual rents. Treaty negotiations with Ottawa and the province, meanwhile, over compensation for the loss of traditional Musqueam territory, have been deadlocked since 1997.

But while confrontation and conflict dominate those issues, Sparrow has been following a different direction to accomplish small miracles on Musqueam Creek. Herding the waters of native culture, he says, Sparrow turns diverse rhetoric, instead offering support for the waterway wherever he can find it. Environmentalist David Suzuki is a sponsor; the Prince of Wales invited him to his Vancouver hotel room for a gourmet chat about the creek during a three-day visit last year. "I don't think political boundaries play into the biology and science of things," argues the self-proclaimed scientist. "I've always believed in the riverway approach."

**Not that there is any question** where Sparrow finds his cultural roots. "One hundred and ten per cent aboriginal," he says firmly. And well connected. Sparrow comes from a leading Musqueam family. He carries the name of his grandfather, who was a prominent elected chief. So were two of his aunts. One, Wendy John, with whom young Wilfred spent more childhood summers on the Musqueam reserve, is now an acting regional director general in the federal department of Indian and northern affairs—the second most powerful Indian affairs bureaucrat in British Columbia. "He's got leadership qualities," John says of her nephew. "They show at a young age—something, maybe a sparkle in their eye, that tells you they're going to do something great." Wilfred was never a follower, never afraid of being independent.

Much of the credit for that goes to his stepfather Robert Hall was a registered member of the Skowhehe native band

near Chilliwack. Young Wilfred moved to rural Chilliwack as a toddler after his mother's first marriage ended in divorce and she remarried. But Hall also had Chinese and Jamaican heritages, and liked to say he "looked at things in all three ways," Sparrow recalls. "To have a First Nations point of view on things, at his eyes, was a failure—if it was exclusive." Growing up in the country provided another formative experience, introducing Wilfred firsthand to nature. "I had a few hundred acres to play around in."

Later, as a teenager, it also seemed natural to join friends in the Musqueam's age-old pursuit of Fraser River salmon. In 1988, Sparrow became a commercial fisherman. Salmon have traditionally been central to the lives of Pacific natives: a source of mythology and fish as well as food. But the treated fish have also been a source of conflict. Among many injustices that rattle B.C. natives, one of the most insidious is the way non-native fishermen shouldered aboriginals aside during the early years of this century—even securing laws to criminalize natives who clogged in commercial fisheries.

**The Musqueam** opened in 1994, when a Supreme Court of Canada ruling forced the federal department of fisheries and oceans to acknowledge a native right to salmon, and to increase natives' share of the catch. But whatever hopes they had for restored wealth built on salmon were quickly dashed. Ottawa's court-ordered policy ran into fierce hostility from non-native fishing groups. And then there was the perilous state of the fishery itself: just as officials increased natives' share of the salmon catch, stocks began to plummet.

Sparrow, by then married and the father of a young son, swapped fishing and took a job as an aboriginal fisheries officer. That ended when Sparrow broke his back in an accident at a boat launch in 1995. He defied medical predictions by making close to a full recovery, but doctors banned Sparrow from returning to his former job. Instead, he became the band's habitat co-ordinator, overseeing environmental projects. One early project is surveying of Musqueam Creek, where he had played as a child. What he found appalled and changed him. Where once the sound of splashing salmon lily swished splashed on summer nights, in 1996 only 12 fish remained. "My philosophy turned around," says Sparrow. "I wasn't working for people anymore, I was working for a system—in my country."

Since then, Sparrow has focused his energy on the band's Musqueam Watershed Restoration Project, coining funding from a variety of sources, including the Saulti Foundation. Physical measures like tree planting and crash removal aim to improve the biological health of the Musqueam and its tributary, Carleton Creek. Public speaking and school visits, meanwhile, aim to raise Musqueam's awareness of the last salmon creek within their urban borders—and the wider importance of similarly threatened streams throughout the B.C. Lower Mainland to the future of the fish.

Those efforts have enjoyed some success. More than 30



Sparrow accompanying small muscles on Musqueam Creek

thems and cubic salmon came back to Musqueam Creek last year. Meanwhile, a recent encounter at the creek told Sparrow his conservationist-caring message is also catching on. Wading in the water to survey some of its wild tributaries, Sparrow was accosted by a woman on horseback. "She said, 'The Musqueams are trying to save that creek, to get out of it.' He made with a smile."

Sparrow's bridge-building style pun him at odds with the Musqueam band's general image in British Columbia these days. The band has attracted fierce criticism for simply naming the arena post on 74 non-native houses on reserve land. The band's arguments in support of those inquests have been legitimized by two courts, but the nation have sought leave to appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada. The high court will decide this fall whether or not to hear the case. Meanwhile, many of the natives are refusing to pay the higher rent—while the Musqueam band's refusal to compromise with its tenants, crime control, has contributed to a building of non-native attitudes towards aboriginal rights. "It's adversely affecting the money process," asserts lawyer and Musqueam trustee Kerry-Lynne Findlay. "It's adversely affecting the ability of other First Nations to market their leasehold properties."

Sparrow sidesteps criticism of his hard leadership's position on the contentious rent issue, while depicting the theme on both sides. "I hear a lot of fear," he says. "As long as you're putting fear out front, it doesn't allow for conver-

sation." As a naturalist, Sparrow is well aware that the Musqueam watershed and others like it will be saved only through the effort of natives and non-natives together. Encouraging the two to talk, he is convinced, is the first step to preserving both the last salmon creek in Vancouver—and the vanishing heritage of his people.

## ON THE STREETS

In the cramped living room of a bungalow in gritty north-central Regina, a young woman is pacing the floor angrily. This is her mother's house, and her TV set has just been stolen as she slept. When the noise of the break-in woke her before midnight, she telephoned the police and then family members who live nearby. A pained open front window with a torn screen leaves little doubt about how the thief came and went. As police officers poke around outside with flashlights, her brother hurls blame at the city's large native population. "From now on, I'm going to beat the crap out of every Indian who comes near this place," he spouts. Just then, Regina Police Service Constable Greg McNabb, whose late father was a Delano-Spanish, whose mother is a proud Métis, and whose spouse is a Cree chef and former RCMP special constable, steps into the room.

McNabb studies and raises back outside, leaving a stammering officer to handle the situation. He shrugs off the distressed remark, taking note that it was not intentionally aimed at him. On other occasions, though, he has been a target. "With me being native and I game I am pretty damn—people identify me right away," McNabb says. Perhaps surprisingly, he says he encounters overt racism from whites more often than from natives. "I hear 'whitey' and I get, 'Why are you doing this to your own people?'" he says. "But I consider who is saying it, someone who is asserting to name-calling instead of dealing with a problem."

Problems are never in short supply in north-central Regina. The inner-city precinct is one of Canada's more demanding police beats. It is, after all, the most crime-ridden district in a city that has the country's highest crime rate. Back in Regina, which has a population of about 180,000, last year handled 14,795 crimes for every 100,000 people, well above the 12,342 crimes per 100,000 logged in Vancouver, the city with the most want crime. Nobody disputes the fact that north-central—with much of its large native population residing in an unemployment and blighted by alcohol and drug addiction—is the case of Regina's crime problem. Less than six per cent of the city's population lives in the area—about 10,500 people, just under one-third of them aboriginal—but it accounts for nearly 20 per cent of incidents that demand police attention.

No wonder residents, echoing the language of American TV cop shows, sometimes refer to their neighbourhood as "the project" or "the ghetto." And there are low-rise apartment buildings and run-down houses with duct tape over cracked windows, but also well-stocked little homes on bluffs made graceful by trees. McNabb speaks of his staff fondly. "I love it," he says, chatting with his partner along north-central's main drag, Albert Street, at the start of a moonlit 12-hour night shift. Handsome, athletic and quietly confident, McNabb, 23, is the son of native officer Canadian police forces are filling out one another to mend the bridge gap between law enforcement and the booming population of aboriginal youth in inner-city neighbourhoods.

McNabb speaks fondly of his rapport with north-central's kids and his respect for its older native residents. Mostly, though, he says the job leaves him no choice but to focus on the neighbourhood's blighted side. On this night, for instance, McNabb and his partner plan to scan the sidewalks for a prostitute who they suspect might have witnessed a shooting in June, when a shotgun blast took off a man's leg. Immigration links that crime to burgeoning urban native gangs. Yet McNabb downplays the issue. He insists gang activity is far less prevalent in Regina than in Winnipeg. Still, he admits there is a ready-made two-way traffic between north-central and the penitentiaries whose locked-up gang leaders recruit members and coordinate their power.

Soon after they begin their shift, McNabb and his partner rush to respond to a police radio blast about a possible shooting. When they arrive at the scene—along with several other patrol cars and an ambulance—it turns out the victim has merely been punched in the face after being chased by two unidentified men. A motive heavily marked with scars and tattoos, he refuses to say anything about who his fans. After being punched up by a paramedic, he wanders off unscathed into a minor of adolescence. The rest of the police dispatch, but for McNabb and his partner, this episode is not quite over.

They wait a few minutes, then drive slowly up their lights off to a nearby alley. The man with the bandaged nose now steps out of the shadows and leans into the open car window. He is, it turns out, on familiar terms with McNabb and his partner—one of the many changed they keep open into north-central's complex underworld. No longer sounding scared, he complains that he has been made to look bad—in the eyes of any youths who might have been watching—by having the police question him openly in the street. Asked if he is in immediate danger, he says, "I will take 10 of them to kill me," before waving off McNabb and his partner off in the background, that hard case, only seemingly released after a stint in prison, a mere life trying to resist himself in the

**'I've always believed in the partnership approach'**

McNabb is a strong presence in a bleak neighborhood

drug trade. But there is, apparently, somebody who stands to lose market share and is not letting him slip easily back into his old life.

McNabb is pushed to those half-in-backrooms between the sunshine of the RCMP station parking lot in his home town, Fort Qu'Appelle, Sask. His Cree stepfather, Walter McNabb, then a special native constable at the detachment (he is now chief of a Cree reserve near Fort Qu'Appelle), put his 14-year-old stepson to work washing cruisers. "I got to drive them 10 feet to the house," Greg McNabb remembers with a smile. "Sitting in a police car at that age—wow." From then on, his ambition was clear. After high school, he entered the RCMP training academy in Regina. He was only 19 years old. His first posting as a Mountie was to Whitecourt, Alta., where his residences overcame him. He quit and returned to Saskatchewan with a vague idea of becoming a schoolteacher. Less than a year later, in the summer of 1993, he joined the Regina Police Service, and was assigned to north-central.

He thrived, emerging as a conspicuous street—poised, articulate and popular among his fellow officers—on a force eager to show its sensitivity to urban Aboriginal issues. Yet McNabb declines to talk much about what it means to be one of the 29 natives among the Regina Police Service's 319 officers. The instinct to fit in, rather than stand out, may be inherited from his mother, Lorraine McNabb, 51, a registered nurse in Fort Qu'Appelle who, three decades ago, was the

only native woman in her nursing class in Saskatchewan. She says she tried to pass on to Greg, a single child, both no special treatment, work hard. As for expressing Aboriginal identity, she is hard-nosed. "Those things are fine," she says, "but we still

have to make a living, whether we like it or not, in a white man's world. After you accomplish that, then you can sound out your life with all those other things."

Greg McNabb grew up with some exposure to native traditions. His father, Bill Inman, a Dakota-Sioux from the Standing Buffalo reserve near Fort Qu'Appelle, died in a car accident when Greg was two years old. "Greg was always a very native boy," Lorraine McNabb, the daughter of a white mother and a native father, recalls. "Before his time, he saw himself as the son of the house." When Greg was 9, his world changed when his mother married Walter McNabb. He made an impressive role model. The family moved from Standing Buffalo to the white community of Fort Qu'Appelle, where Greg's dad as a hockey player, listed in shirley games on the open ice of Echo Lake, helped him fit in with



his non-native peers. "There are no barriers in sports in a small town," his mother says. "If you are good at them, you are accepted."

Greg's ties to Standing Buffalo were not permanently severed. Soon after he joined the Regina force, he was mentored by his uncle, Lloyd Inman, a respected elder steeped in Dakota-Sioux tradition, in a position a traditional sweat lodge. McNabb accepted, but protests the close relationship that evolved at home. "I used to sweat with my uncle; he taught me quite a bit," he says tentatively. "I don't know if I can really get into it." When Inman died three years ago, those lessons apparently stopped. Another uncle, Melvin Inman, Standing Buffalo's current chief, wishes Greg would return to the reserve more often these days, but adds: "It's his choice. We don't force anyone."

**The old ways** that can sometimes survive on the reserve seem distant to north-central. Their debt isn't yet half over. McNabb and his partner have encountered pressures and drugs, hooked in a belligerent 20-year-old drunk to sober up in jail, and cooled down an apartment party that was threatening to boil over. And, sadly, every incident has involved young natives. How does McNabb cope with a night after night? "You think of yourself as a police officer, not a native person," he says bluntly.

But later he refines that answer. "It's really easy to get caught up in it," he says of the plight of so many young urban natives. "It's nice to sit down and talk with other native people in the area every once in a while, especially the older people—they know the score. And younger children are always friendly." Those proud old folk and happy kids give McNabb a break from the dulling succession of troubled adolescents and young adults that he confronts on the job—a change of perspective he says means a great deal to him. What he gets them back, though, has to be worth at least as much. ■

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# A shock for Romanow

## The Saskatchewan NDP squeaks through with a minority

By Brian Bergman in Saskatoon

In one stinging speech after another during the 28-day Saskatchewan election campaign, Premier Roy Romanow returned to the same refrain: "Don't judge me against perfection," he urged voters. "Judge me against the alternatives." The pithy quote was meant to play to what was supposed to be the voters' NDP leaders' greatest advantage—the political inexperience and internal divisions plaguing his two main rivals, the Saskatchewan Party and the Liberals. Most voters accepted the premier's criticism—but then came to realize, for Romanow, was a warning, conclusion: "When the results were called last Thursday night, the overwhelming majority of the NDP had enjoyed in the provincial legislature for eight years had been reduced to the status of minorities—and the right-wing Saskatchewan Party had come within a whisker of winning office." "We may not have won the prize," Saskatchewan Party Leader Elbert Hermanson told cheering supporters, "but we were surprised the winners."

The results, in fact, caught political observers flat-footed. Three public opinion polls during the campaign showed the NDP with a comfortable lead—and suggested that Romanow was the overwhelming choice for premier when compared with Hermanson and Liberal Leader Jim McLeischuk. What the polls failed to reflect, however, was the depth of the fury and frustration among Saskatchewan farmers, many of whom are on the brink of bankruptcy due to low commodity prices. It didn't help that rural residents were also bracing over how other interests, including crumblers, highwayers, high land taxes and hospital closures (opposed by the Romanow government)



Hermanson, a farmer and former Reform MP, was the beneficiary of the rural wrath. The Saskatchewan Party actually won more of the popular vote than the NDP: 39.6 per cent to 38.7, but took 35 seats, compared with 29 for the NDP and three for the Liberals. While the NDP continued to dominate the cities, the Saskatchewan Party victories came from the province's farm belt and the small towns and villages



The premier with his wife, Elvina. Hermanson left: the province's angry farmers don't see the NDP as their majority.

that still depend on agriculture. "Hermanson was talking to those people in a language they understood," says University of Saskatchewan political science John Courtney. "He is one of them in a way that Romanow clearly is not."

In fact, for all his political polish and acumen, the Saskatoon-born Romanow

on the campaign that Mr. Romanow had a lot of bite," says New Democrat Bob Plourde, a former social services minister who did not seek re-election. "Roy has opened a lot of eyes in rural Saskatchewan but it's often hard for urban politicians to really understand the concerns out there."

On election night, as he stood before cheering supporters at Saskatoon's Centennial Auditorium, a subdued Romanow tried to reach out once again. Addressing his first remarks to the beleaguered farming community, he said: "You have spoken clearly tonight about your concerns about the worst year in rural Saskatchewan since the 1930s. And I have heard you and, of course, all of Canada has heard you."

The next day, Romanow went to ground, cancelling a news conference and building instead with advisers to ponder his options. He must decide how soon he wants to convene the legislature. Wherever that happens, Romanow will be in the unflattering position of having to appease his opponents, not only to get his agenda passed but to ensure his survival. He will be paying particular attention to the Liberal party, which garnered 20.2 per cent of the popular vote but has just three seats, including that of McLeischuk, a self-proclaimed Saskatchewan physician. McLeischuk, who seemed somewhat taken aback by his new status as kingmaker, was setting firm preconditions, other than that he wanted Romanow to act decisively on the farm crisis and to keep the budget balanced. One option for Romanow: since a Liberal to be the house speaker—who was only in the event of a tie—effectively giving the NDP a one-vote majority.

But in the short run, at least, much of the spotlight will fall on Hermanson, whose beleaguered farm work seemed unimpeachable when the Saskatchewan Party was founded in August, 1997. An amalgam of four former Conservative and four disaffected Liberal MLAs, the party set out to create the right in the wake of the demise of the once-powerful Saskatchewan Conservatives. The Tories formally folded their tent two

years ago, following corruption charges against more than 15 MLAs and party workers.

For most of the campaign, pollsters, pundits and the media wrote off the new party—the "Shawco-Taxco," as Romanow derisively dubbed them. But Hermanson insisted that victory was within his grasp. As it turned out, he had correctly read the mood of rural Saskatchewan, where his roots ran deep. The Saskatchewan Party leader grew up in the small farming community of Beechy, which was then so far removed from the provincial road system that it was cut off from the nearest schools in the winter months.

Hermanson still continues to farm part time near Beechy. Elected to Parliament as a Reform MP in 1993, he was the party's house leader and agriculture critic before being defeated in the 1997 federal election. Since taking over the Saskatchewan Party in April, 1998, he has pursued a Reform-like agenda, emphasizing user pay cuts and smaller government. The 47-year-old father of three traces his political philosophy directly to his farm roots. "You learn to be self-reliant," he told McLeischuk last week. "You learn the work ethic. But you also learn the value of community and working together."

If Hermanson is as even to become premier, he will have to make his fellow transformationist attractive to urban voters. Courtney, for one, thinks that is conceivable. The political scientist points out that the Saskatchewan Party finished a respectable second in several Regina and Saskatoon mayors, while barely campaigning in the cities. "On paper, they are a government-in-waiting," says Courtney. "But even so, they remain an unusual commodity."

And then there is the Romanow factor. With more than 30 years in politics, the 60-year-old premier is nothing if not a survivor. "The Roy Romanow I know is a fighter," says Patricia Anderson, Romanow's minister of education. "This is the kind of resolve to make him roll up his sleeves and work even harder." If true, expect to see a lot more of the sophisticated socialist down on the farm. ■



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## Victory for Andy Wells

The Supreme Court of Canada ruled that the government of Newfoundland acted unfairly when it removed Andy Wells, now the mayor of St. John's, from the provincial Public Utilities Board in 1990. Wells was appointed by the Conservative government of Brian Peckford—and sacked without cause or compensation during downsizing under Liberal premier Clyde Wells. He got \$500,000 in compensation, court costs and a \$28,000-a-year pension.

## Attempting a comeback

William Vander Zant announced that he will seek the leadership of the B.C. Reform party. The former Social Credit premier, driven from office in 1991 by scandal, has been serving as president of the party, which has no seats in the legislature. Vander Zant, who is running unopposed, also said he intends to seek a legislative seat in a by-election expected to be called soon.

## A boy's death

A 13-year-old Alberta boy was convicted of manslaughter in the March 13 shooting death of Tyler Osaine, 11. The youngster died after escalating a homeplay during a birthday party, for his 16-year-old brother led to him and the older boy facing off with loaded rifles. Osaine's widower father, Terry, is a gun collector who had at least 16 firearms in the house—a fact alluded to by provincial justice judge Dick Fowler when he passed judgment. "There is a general lesson to be learned by society for those who keep firearms and weapons in their houses," Fowler said.

## Manning's hard line

Reform party leader Preston Manning urged Ontario to initiate tough measures against illegal shore fishing in the six days that have brought hundreds of Chinese to British Columbia since early July. Manning said the Liberals should adopt a new process to evaluate refugee claims and deport bogus claimants within a week—or, failing that, the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, if necessary. The government is currently making changes to the Immigration Act, but has no plans for new legislation until next year.

## Canada Notes

## Home away from home



*Bouchard, Chretien and New Democrats' Bernard Lord, discuss serious overclouds a trade mission*

**Domestic** issues overshadowed the Team Canada trade mission to Japan. During a meeting with young Canadians working in the Asian country, an can dominated part of the discussion with Prime Minister Jean Chretien and the premiers (only Manitoba's Gary Filmon and Saskatchewan's Roy Romanow were absent because of election campaigns). "There is a price to pay to live in the best country in the world," said Chretien when asked about high costs.

The issue of Quebec sovereignty also dogged the trade mission. Although Chretien and Quebec Premier Lucien Bouchard agreed not to discuss unity, a new poll published in the mission got under way showed that 68 per cent of

Quebecers are opposed to another referendum. (Long-governmental Affairs Minister Stéphane Durois would take the day, saying that Ottawa may impose its own referendum rules. Although angsty, Bouchard tried to evade the issue. But at the end of the trip, a Japanese businessman raised the question, saying that a "Yes" vote could hurt investment in Quebec. [The Team Canada visit resulted in \$409 million in deals—the lowest of five trade missions headed by Chretien.]

## A ruling on the side of child support

The Supreme Court of Canada ended an acrimonious legal battle between Toronto schoolteacher Monica Francis and her multimillionaire ex-husband, Thomas Baker, by upholding a lower court judgment ordering him to pay \$10,034 a month in support for their two teenage daughters. Baker, who ended the marriage when his second daughter was five days old, later became wealthy. The Supreme Court said he failed to show that the payments were unreasonably high, although it said courts have the discretion to set reasonable limits.

## A search heats up

**Toronto police** stepped up their hunt for the so-called bedroom sniper who has been terrorizing the northern part of the city. Police believe that the man has broken into or attempted to enter 12 homes since early January, in eight of these instances, sexually assaulting females, in one case a nine-year-old girl. In another, a 75-year-old woman was assaulted while her hus-

band slept on the bed beside her. Last week, police concentrated their efforts on a local resident they identified as the serial attacker's favoured escape route, searching through underbrush with lucky sticks. They also released a composite sketch of a black man wanted for questioning—prompting criticism from members of the black community who said the vignettes of the drawing pelted all blacks under suspicion.

# A star for team arthritis

**When hockey great Wayne Gretzky let it be known early last week that he may be suffering from arthritis, the phone at the Quebec-based Arthritis Society rang off the hook. "I had one elderly woman call from the West who was just thrilled that someone of Gretzky's stature would publicize this disease," said society president Denis Morrice. "She said it made her want to get out her old figure skates. Then she just started crying."**

By week's end, however, those tears of joy were mingling with a slightly sour taste in the mouth. Gretzky, it seems, may not actually have the disease. He has symptoms—effusions and a soreness in his shoulders—consistent with early stages of osteoarthritis, the most common form of a painful disease that affects four million Canadians. But he has not been formally diagnosed. What's more, the arthritis-awareness campaign he has undertaken—he says reluctantly—with the American arm of drug-manufacturer McNeil Consumer Healthcare, a subsidiary of pharmaceutical giant Johnson & Johnson, is to run a hand in hand with a promotion for the drugmaker's Tylenol brand of pain



Gretzky takes a grill in 1997: the Arthritis Society is glad to see awareness raised

no direct role in the campaign—called "neonates run the game from total support to revolution to confusion." Still, the society is delighted that Gretzky is raising awareness. "People really are phoning about osteoarthritis," said one spokesman for the society. "So, hello, it's worked."

Gretzky joins a growing list of celebrities pushing drugs, especially in the United States where even prescription medications are far gone. It is a competitive field. In the case of arthritis, the leading cause of long-term disability in Canada, researchers expect the number of afflicted to double in the years ahead because of aging baby boomers. Last year, \$270 million worth of anti-arthritis prescription drugs were sold in this country.

For early-stage arthritis, over-the-counter drugs like Tylenol (acetaminophen) have enjoyed an advantage over certain anti-inflammatory drugs such as Aspirin (acetylsalicylic acid), which can cause stomach and kidney problems with prolonged usage. But recently a

new generation of anti-inflammatories has emerged that does not have those side effects. Pharmaceutical maker Schering's new arthritis drug Celebrex has reaped off the pharmaceutical shelves 428,400 prescriptions during its first three months on the market, making it the fastest-selling new drug ever in Canada, even outstripping the popular anti-impotence drug Viagra.

Gretzky's message, like that of former downhill ski champion Todd Brookes '89, the official unpaid spokesman for the Arthritis Society, is that arthritis can hit Canadians of all ages. It resonates with 36-year-old Bonnie Allanson, who works at a fish-processing plant in South Side, N.S., and has put up with aching knees since high school. "When the finally went to see a bone specialist in the spring, she had said she would be diagnosed with osteoarthritis. 'I was shocked,'" says Allanson. "My father is crippled with arthritis. But I thought it was something that just hit old people."

So did Gretzky, who notes this year voted his own doest complaining of

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Wayne Gretzky is getting paid to sell a painkiller, but does he even have the disease?

reborn—for which he will be paid.

Well before his public service announcement will be broadcast urging people to get early checkups for arthritis, there was Gretzky last week as a Tylenol commercial saying that because of his age—38—he was surprised to be told he may have arthritis. He says he takes the brand-name pain reliever for it anyway—on "doctor's orders." The commercialization of the message shocked some fans. At the Canadian Arthritis Society—which has

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## Health

arthritis in his shoulders, knees and back, especially after long car trips. "Obviously, I was surprised when my doctor said these pains could easily be early symptoms of common arthritis," the recently retired supervisor and a publicity rider for McNell's campaign.

One in seven Canadians suffer from one or more of the 100 varieties of arthritis. Osteoarthritis involves the degeneration of cartilage in joints. Rheumatoid arthritis, a more serious strain, affects the immune system and leaves the sufferer with inflamed joints throughout the body. Nova Scotia, which has the highest rate of arthritis in the country with fully 20 per cent of the population over the age of 12 affected, could easily be overwhelmed. And, like elsewhere, no scientist find that arthritis does not draw the big research dollars that go towards life-threatening ailments like AIDS and heart disease. "It is quite simply a question of viability," concludes John Hawley, head of the rheumatology division at Halifax's Dalhousie University. "That is where celebrity cachet comes in."

Ginseng joins National football League Hall of Famer Joe Montana on the arthritis front. Canadian Michael J. You and actress Mary Tyler Moore have publicized the cause of Parkinson's disease and juvenile diabetes, respectively, for personal reasons. Celebrity promoters can increase pressure on governments and granting agencies.

For the worst afflicted, the good news is that new artificial hip and knee replacements are lasting longer. Each year, 38,000 Canadians undergo the procedure. But often nothing really works. Helen Tupper, 57, uses a combination of physiotherapy and prescription pain relievers to control the pain that has spread from her knees to her right hip, hands and elbows. "The worst time is in the morning," says the Dartmouth, N.S., nurse. "You have to will yourself to move." Like a 20-year career in professional hockey, arthritis is a test of endurance.

Robert Sheppard visits John DeMare in Halifax.

A travel advertising supplement

# Taste of TRAVEL

## Southeast Asia

Hong Kong the Orient's best kept secret!

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# iscover (HK)

## Hong Kong's Fabulous Five

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With the new year round **DISCOVER** promotion, there's never been a better time to Discover Hong Kong. A quick look at what's new and you'll soon discover that there's always something special happening in Hong Kong 24 hours a day. 365 days a year.

With the Hong Kong VISA Card also being launched this year, you can take advantage of superb benefits such as privileged discounts at more than 700 of Hong Kong's most fashionable shops and restaurants. During special periods, plus special offers on selected shopping tours that'll make it easier for you to reach your shopping to your interests. Discover Hong Kong is divided into distinct categories: the Fabulous Five - Origins, Signature, Team, Best Buy, and Hopping.



To find out more about the Discover Hong Kong promotion, contact the Hong Kong Tourist Association at 1-800-363-1014 or visit our website at [www.hkta.org](http://www.hkta.org)

The unique location of Hong Kong for many visitors is the perfect way in which ancient traditions meet in an extraordinary city. These contrasts come alive in heritage tours which visit some of Hong Kong's oldest sights and also an Heritage and Architecture Walk which guides visitors around sights of architectural significance. There is also a special museum area which costs just \$1000 for unlimited access to a number of major museums.

### 1 ORIGINS



### BEST BUYS

From bustling open air markets to city specialty malls, Hong Kong is a diverse and exciting shopper's paradise with something to suit everyone's taste.

### 2 SIGHTS

Visitors to Hong Kong will be amazed by how much there is to do. The stunning beauty of wild mountains can be explored with the help of the Green Guide, a comprehensive guide to Hong Kong's countryside. Special nature trails and wildlife tours are also available, or visitors can simply enjoy the best of both worlds in the heart of the city.



You will be amazed by the wealth of culinary delights offered in the Culinary Capital of Asia, which boasts more than 8,000 restaurants. All year round there are special seasonal Hong Kong Gourmet Delights which include the Festive Buffet as well as Winter Time Menus for a traditional piping hot feast.

### 3 FEAST



### 5 HAPPENINGS

As the Events Capital of Asia, you will find the calendar crisscrossed with spectacular international events and sports. The calendar includes the Chinese New Year Parade, New Year Fireworks and Illuminations and the Hong Kong Arts Festival.



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## See Asia Now

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### A RARE TRADITION:

Visitors to Thailand will be able to witness a rare, centuries-old tradition this November 4, when King Bhumibol and the Thai royal family will travel along Bangkok's Chao Phraya River in a large procession to the Temple of Dawn. The extraordinary procession, featuring 26 barges and 1,762 women, occurs only on special royal occasions, and is regarded as one of the world's finest spectacles, in which the splendour of Thai arts and culture is on public display. The kilometre-long procession can also be viewed during rehearsals on October 7 and 21. The ritual which started 240 years ago, was revived by King Bhumibol to provide a traditional, cultural experience for Thais and visitors alike.

### CATHAY PACIFIC SCORES:

Cathay Pacific has scored great success in Canada with its All Asia Pass programme that the airline's management have in confidence that local office will give the go-ahead for the value-added proposition to continue through next year. The \$1,299 All Asia Pass offers economy class air travel from Canada to Hong Kong - plus the opportunity to visit an additional 45 Asian cities within a 30-day period. The airline's dream is to convert their professional travel agents well ahead of departure because All Asia Pass seats are limited.

### DRAWING THE DRAGON:

Elementary schoolchildren across Canada have been invited to enter a Dragon 2000 poster contest, organized by the Hong Kong Travel Association to foster a better understanding of Chinese culture, and to promote cross-cultural exchange in celebration of the Year of the Dragon. The grand prize is a five-night trip for four to Hong Kong to attend the Feb. 5, 2000 Chinese New Year Parade, where dragon dances will be the star attraction. Contestants can submit their design drawings by e-mailing [drawings@hktat.com](mailto:drawings@hktat.com) or they can send them to the association's office at 9 Temperance Street, Third Floor, Toronto, ON M5H 1Y5. Deadline is Nov. 30, 1999, and all entries will be judged by a panel of six well-known Canadian artists.

### GOLDEN DEALS IN SINGAPORE:

Singapore is celebrating the dawn of the new millennium by offering a series of golden deals for marine travellers aged 55 and over. Attracting, awareness and harbour cruise companies will be discounting their prices to older visitors and August next year. Half-price admission is being offered by innovative attractions such as Jurong Bird Park, Haw Par Villa and the Dymally Village, while Nanyang Seafood Restaurant dinner and shop package. Singapore's major museums have half-price deals for seniors, who can also take advantage of local cruise discounts of up to 20 per cent. For more information, contact the Singapore Tourism Board at 416-363-8866.

## Hong Kong: Visitors Go For The Shopping, But Love The Attractions



Many have heard about Hong Kong's outstanding shopping, renowned as a bargain-basement heaven for shopaholics kick-started by the development of one of the world's premier travel destinations, and it's still a great place to enjoy a serious shopping experience.

But the 100,000 Canadians who visited the City of Life in the first six months of this year—soon to hit seven million—also found it a place where there was all too short to sample the city's attractions.

But if you're not a shopaholic, there are still plenty of things to do in Hong Kong. The city's spectacular scenic markets, selling everything from seashells to seafood, continue to offer great value and a unique ambience, while bargain hunters looking for brand-name clothes at unbelievably low prices should head for Hong Kong's factory outlets.

As part of the Discover HK promotion, there is the added bonus of the Hong Kong VIP Card, which is free to visitors and offers year-round discounts at more than 600 retail outlets.

cent of whom say they will remain—recommends that it takes at least six months to fully experience the excitement and variety of Canada's most popular travel destination in Asia.

The Hong Kong Tourist Association agrees. It is in order to help visitors get maximum enjoyment at whatever time they have available, the association has come up with a special Discover HK promotion that showcases its attractions under five major themes.

Start your shopping trip at the HKTA's Fabulous Five, Inc. The city's spectacular scenic markets, selling everything from seashells to seafood, continue to offer great value and a unique ambience, while bargain hunters looking for brand-name clothes at unbelievably low prices should head for Hong Kong's factory outlets.

As part of the Discover HK promotion, there is the added bonus of the Hong Kong VIP Card, which is free to visitors and offers year-round discounts at more than 600 retail outlets.

Number two on the list is Hong Kong's origins, and a series of special tours

highlights the city's history and traditions, which combine 150 years of British colonial influence and 5,000 years of Chinese culture. Two of the most popular tours are the self-guided and audio-accompanied Heritage and Architecture Walks of Hong Kong Island and Kowloon.



The sights of the city are featured in the third of the Fabulous Five themes, and special tours have been designed to make the most of the many sightseeing opportunities Hong Kong has to offer, including visits to temples and traditional fishing villages and a half-day Dolphin Watch cruise.

The latest addition to Hong Kong's roster of attractions is its Green Scene. Nearly 30 per cent of the territory is open land

and fully 40 per cent is protected country parkland. This greenery side of Hong Kong is highlighted through a series of recommended coastal and country walks, as well as a series of ecology tours.

Dining has always been one of the major draws to the City of Life and its 8,700 restaurants. The hugely popular spring food festival has now been turned into a year-round affair, with the Hong Kong Gourmet Delights promotion featuring seasonal menus and food-related activities throughout the city. Feasting is number four on the Fabulous Five list.

There is no doubt that Hong Kong is a happening place. Events staged in the city cover an extraordinary spectrum of art, theatre, music, festivals, popular and traditional entertainment and sport. Regular events include the Hong Kong Rugby Sevens Tournament, the Chinese New Year Parade and the Hong Kong Arts Festival.

Happenings round out the Fabulous Five. Together with Best Boys, Origins, Sights and Feast, it gives the Hong Kong Tourist Association a promotion it is confident provides something for everyone, whatever the season.

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## Singapore: A New Life Breathed Into Old Districts

Singapore reached a watershed in its development as a tourist destination in the early 1990s, when rampant development almost resulted in the demolition of one of its most famous monuments, Raffles Hotel. The venerable property was ultimately saved, and incorporated into a new Raffles, which stands again as one of the country's landmarks.

Since then, Singapore has been breathing new life into old districts. The modernization drive has been tempered with a respect for Singapore's roots, providing visitors with a multicultural array of attractions in a tropical setting that combines ultra-modern facilities with a wealth of history.

"The emphasis today is on Singapore as a multi-cultural destination with strong Chinese,



Indian and Malay influences overlaid by British colonial heritage," explains Gerald Lee, vice-president, Canada for the Singapore Tourism Board.

"Our attractions are steeped in traditional culture, and we are finding that our visitors want to discover Singapore's architecture, food and dress, as well as our festivals and special events. They tell us that our history and culture are important to their holiday experience," says Lee.

He reports that there has been a major effort to restore the historic areas of Chinatown, Little India and Arab Street, while the Singapore River waterfront, which was only recently a strip of run-down shophouses and warehouses, has

**Singapore**

(continued on next page)

been transformed into a vibrant nightlife district.

Historic buildings in the colonial core of Singapore have also taken on new functions. The Singapore Art Museum and Asian Civilisations Museum were originally boys' schools, while a heritage site across the road from the art museum has been transformed into CHUMES (pronounced "chimes"), a shopping, dining, entertainment and leisure complex featuring fine Victorian gothic architecture.

The sheer wealth of attractions is underscored by a Singapore Tourist Board publication entitled 101 Things To Do In Singapore. The pamphlet outlines activities ranging from bamboo riding on the Singapore River, through cooking classes at Raffles Cooking Academy, to rain-forest trekking at the Bukit Timah Nature Reserve. The city-state's list of



attractions includes popular Sentosa Island, the Singapore Botanical Gardens, many fine golf courses and the world-renowned Jurong Bird Park.

The price for all this has really come down, according to Lee. "Because of the economic crisis in Asia, and a Canadian dollar which has appreciated

more than 90 per cent over the past 18 months, our Canadian visitors can now find six-eight packages, including air transportation and first-class hotel accommodation, from as low as \$1,399 from Vancouver," he says, pointing out that tour prices used to be in the \$2,000 to \$3,000 range.

He reports, "Nowadays, we're encouraging our visitors to spend at least four or five nights in Singapore to fully explore our unique mix of traditional and modern attractions in a safe, clean environment."

And he adds, "Singapore is a year-round destination in its own right, but its location at the heart of the region and its award-winning airport also make it the perfect start or finish point for a Southeast Asian vacation."

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**S**o you want to visit Asia but you fear the price is going to be prohibitive. Fear not, because Cathay Pacific has the solution—an All Asia Pass, which combines Hong Kong with any of all of 15 other cities in the region for a mere \$1,500. And the airline is so confident that the 30-day pass offers the best value anywhere that it is advising customers to shop and compare.

These are not just any cities pulled out of Cathay Pacific's extensive route network. They are the must-see destinations in Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan and Thailand.

The rules governing the pass are so flexible that passengers can even fly to places like Australia, India, Vietnam and China for modest add-on charges, or they can extend their travel period to Asia from 30 days to 43 days for only \$150 more.

Senior Cathay Pacific executive Ross Croxin explains that the All Asia Pass has been designed as a vehicle for novice



travelers, allowing them to see so much of Asia in they want in the 30-day time span. "Some customers may want to see Hong Kong and all of the 15 additional cities," he says. "Others might want to spend more time experiencing the local culture in depth at a fewer number of destinations. These options are open."

According to Croxin, the All Asia Pass has been priced at about the same level as Cathay Pacific's low-season, round-trip economy fare from Canada to Hong Kong. The price is so attractive that the airline is talking customers to consult with their friends and professional travel agents, because it does not think they will find better value for money anywhere.

A major bonus for All Asia Pass holders is the fact that they fly through Cathay Pacific's Super Hub at the new Hong Kong International Airport. Croxin says the new facility, which added a second runway this summer, is now operating to its expected efficiencies, and provides "every possible amenity," including superb shopping and dining in the Sky Mall.

The airline's first-class and business-class customers can visit the new lounge complex, The Wing. The Wing has been

designed for total comfort, including a spacious lounge, meeting rooms, exquisite spa and restaurants with a wide selection of cuisine from around the world. The Wing is located near Cathay Pacific's preferred gates at the new airport.

Wherever class of service Cathay Pacific's customers opt for, they are treated to the airline's legendary, award-winning service on the ground and in the air. By mid 2000, every cabin on its Boeing 747-400s and Airbus A350-300s will feature a personal television at each seat with a minimum of six program channels, and dining options offering the best of Asian and Western cuisine.

Cathay Pacific is the only airline offering daily, direct, non-stop service from Toronto to Hong Kong, as well as the option of day or night service from Vancouver. As a member of the oneworld alliance, it participates in the Canadian Plus frequent flyer program, allowing customers to accumulate mileage towards Executive Platinum, Gold and Club levels. And those flights guarantee that each Orient-bound passenger tastes an authentic taste of Asia before they get there.

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Hong Kong Tourist Association



Singapore

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### How you can win!

Correctly answer the following questions in the Quiz Entry Form below. You can find the answers in this issue of Maclean's Taste of Southeast Asia Travel Advertising Supplement.

- Q. How many restaurants will you find in Hong Kong? **A.** \_\_\_\_\_
- Q. Name one of the areas that has been restored into a historical conservation district in Singapore. **A.** ☐ Chinatown ☐ Little India  
☐ Arab Street ☐ Singapore River
- Q. On what khlong (canal) in Bangkok can visitors go to see the royal barges daily? **A.** \_\_\_\_\_
- Q. In what frequent flyer program does Cathay Pacific participate in Canada? **A.** \_\_\_\_\_

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## Thailand: Spicy Cuisine, Warm Hospitality

Take a pinch of spicy Thai cuisine. Add a slice of famed Thai hospitality. Mix well with Thailand's glorious scenery and unique culture. Top off the mixture with a series of special events celebrating Thailand's revered monarchy and you have a recipe for the vacation experience of a lifetime.

Although smaller in size than Manitoba, the kingdom of Thailand extends north to south roughly the distance from the northern tip of Quebec to Montreal. And, in that huge stretch, the country boasts an amazing diversity of terrain, ranging from the forested mountains of the far north to the idyllic tropical islands of the deep south. In fact, the variety of terrain in Thailand is matched only by the variety of activities and experiences available to the visitor.

This year is particularly auspicious for visitors, as the

1999 Thailand Festival is a special event in our people's



as other royal barges at their headquarters on Khlong Bangkok Noi, a tributary of the Chao Phraya near the royal palace. The nation's rivers hold an almost mystical sway over the lives of the Thai people. Among the many Thai festivals, which draw visitors year-round, those taking place on the water are the most beloved.

The Nua River features the annual Phumiphon and Pichai boat races, while the Khorat boat races in Nakhon Phanom also include dove-cocking contests. To understand the importance of water in Thai life, visitors should go to any river in the country during the popular Loi Krathong Festival in November and watch thousands of tiny candle-lit boats drift by under the full moon.

According to Tourism Authority of Thailand official Jonathan Detrich, the Kingdom's tourist infrastructure has been developed to enhance eco-tourism, and tourism should allow visitors to experience a wide array of activities designed to promote natural health and wellness.

He says, "Today, meditating in a forest retreat or relaxing at an eco-resort spa can be part of a vacation that caters to the health and well-being of body and soul." Detrich points out, "Visitors may be amazed by thinking of themselves as royalty when they are exposed to the wealth of experiences that Thailand has to offer. The country's cuisine is legendary; its crafts are world-famous and its holiday options range from world-class beach resorts to mountain trekking and elephant back."

But he adds, "It's the gentle welcome of the Thai people themselves that tells our visitors they're getting the royal treatment."

amazing events and unforgettable offers.

The dragon is the most potent and best recognized of the 12 symbols on the Chinese astrological calendar. It has been worshipped for its power and benevolence, and for its ability to influence human fate as well as the workings of the universe.

To celebrate this important year, the neon city will be aglow like never before with magnificent illuminations lighting up the

be the sale of the century.

Singapore begins its Millennium Asia celebration in June. That's when a Swatch-designed countdown clock in the heart of Orchard Road began ticking away the time to the year 2000. The focus in Singapore includes 15 months of exciting events, festivals and non-stop entertainment, which last until August next year.

A highlight of the entertainment schedule will be the November launch of its Asia tour by the world-famous Cirque du Soleil, but pop music and comedy festivals are also on the agenda. Special events will include a huge New Year's Eve street party on Orchard Road, the annual Singapore Food Festival in April, an exhibition of Trixie movie memorabilia, and the multi-cultural Changi street parade next February.

Hotels, restaurants and tour operators have created great-value millennium packages, and Singapore is capping off its celebration with a Once-in-a-Millennium draw for a free return trip for a lucky visitor and 20 accompanying guests. In the meantime, a daily draw for a return trip for one person will run until next August.

Thailand's millennium celebration promises to be a truly royal affair. One of the highlights will be the birthday of King Bhumibol on December 5, when the reverence felt by all Thais for their monarch will be on display. Government buildings, businesses and homes all over the country will be elaborately decorated and the area around the

Grand Palace in Bangkok will be spectacularly illuminated.

The turn of the millennium will be marked by celebrations planned for locations throughout Thailand. December 31 dusk and January 1 dawn festivities will be held on peaks and mountains from north to south.

In mid-December, the ancient capital of Ayutthaya will celebrate its glorious past with exhibitions, cultural performances and sound and light presentations. The modern-day capital of Bangkok will host a Marathon across the Millennium, which will begin on New Year's Eve and end on New Year's Day.



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## Celebrate The Millennium In Southeast Asia



*There will be no better place to witness the turn of the millennium than Southeast Asia. Hong Kong, Singapore and Thailand are making plans for a series of celebrations that are guaranteed to be unforgettable.*

From November this year through February, 2000, Hong Kong will be inviting visitors to breathe fire into their millennium celebrations. The city will be heralding not only the dawn of the new millennium but also the year of the dragon with

harbour front. The Millennium Extravaganza will feature huge street parties, a lantern festival, dragon dances, a torchlight procession and the world's biggest ice party. As well, the Millennium Cup will be the world's first home race of the 21 century. Hong Kong's major restaurant groups have devised special millennium menus. Tour and hotel companies are coming out with special offers and the city's retailers will be announcing what promises to

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Ann Dowsett Johnston

## Welcome to the gender wars

The folks at W25d Laurier University have decided it's time to snag a woman, and no one's going to stop them. When *University Affairs* rolls off the press this week, the new issue will publish the first public ad for what is already the most infamous unfilled spot in Canadian academia: a senior woman position in the psychology department open only to women. The folks at the school are certain they are doing the right thing. At the moment, there are only four female faculty members in a department of 22, teaching an undergraduate group that is 76 per cent female. In the past five years, three gender-appropriate candidates who were offered jobs decided to go elsewhere. "Other institutions have handled this dilemma in a covert fashion," says Angelo Sarno, chairman of the department. "We decided not to be covert."

No kidding. Nothing covert here. To many white male academics, like Olive Seligman, it must be a poke in the eye. Last month, Seligman, a 52-year-old professor of psychology at the University of Western Ontario, filed a complaint with the Ontario Human Rights Commission, challenging what he calls Laurier's exclusionary ban. "It's not a human right to have a teacher of the same sex," argues Seligman. "But why this persistent belief that men like to have men? Why are we so obsessed? The defence seems to be we're robbing you in broad daylight, instead of behind your back."

Ask Nancy Hopkins, a prominent molecular biologist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, whether she thinks she's been robbed—either in daylight or behind her back—and her position is pretty clear. Hopkins, 56, chaired a committee that reported on the status of female faculty in science at MIT. The study, which appeared this March, prompted an extraordinary admission from top officials at the school, acknowledging that female faculty had suffered pervasive discrimination. The announcement made the front page of *The New York Times*. Hopkins was invited to the White House. She bristles when she reports that there has never been a chairwoman in science or engineering in the history of MIT. "Sterns," says Hopkins, matter of factly, "tend to reinforce themselves."

Still, Hopkins is no fan of the Laurier approach. "It's an insult to excellence," says Hopkins. "There are great women out there." Of course there are—and more than ever before. In the past 15 years, women have accounted for 80 per cent of the

employment growth in Canadian universities. When it comes to earning doctorates in psychology—the degree Laurier is looking for—Canadian women have outstripped men since 1986. But if women can advance twice as many doctorates in psychology in seven years on an annual basis, why is it that of the 26 new appointments in psychology in Canadian 1990, only nine went to women? Perhaps, as Hopkins says, systems tend to reinforce themselves.

The Laurier ad is not, by the way, the only one that has gotten people's attention in a hurry. These same folks tend to be bothered by the University Faculty Awards, which are open only to women. Sponsored by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council, the awards provide \$40,000 in annual salary support for a senior track position, as well as a substantial research grant. Why do they exist? To redress the under-representation of women in science and engineering. This year, 22 awards were offered at 15 universities across Canada. "Clearly, this is top-up money that would not be available if we proposed a man for the position," says Sharon Kuhn, University of British Columbia vice-president of equity.

People used to joke that academic salaries were lower precisely because males were so low. Well, the truth is the salaries in academia are now extraordinarily high—especially when it comes to hiring and funding. In the late 1980s, there were roughly 1,800 new postsecondary appointments across Canada each year. Recently, that number has dropped below 1,000. And any university that wishes to continue to receive federal funding must, as part of the federal contract's program, set equity hiring targets, usually based on the proportion of doctoral degree holders by women. Since women earn roughly 35 per cent of Canadian doctoral degrees, it's no coincidence that Laurier aims to increase the percentage of female faculty in Sarno's department to 35 per cent in the next three years.

And so, things spurred, Sarno has taken what he admits is an unusual step. Ask those women what they think of his tactic, and the answer is swift: "Spurs are the worst, pal." But ask a sampling of women in the sciences, and the answer is more nuanced. These are women who would have appreciated a mentor—perhaps someone like Nancy Hopkins. It may not be a human right, but it's an undeniable benefit. As Hopkins says, systems do tend to reinforce themselves.





# Terror at Home

A series of devastating bomb attacks against apartment blocks spreads fear across Russia

By Malcolm Gray in Moscow

**Olga Yershova** lives in northwest Moscow, on the opposite side of the sprawling capital from the sites of two devastating and mysterious apartment bombings that killed more than 200 people. But her fear is undiminished by distance. Who might be next? "Moscow sometimes appears to be its normal busy self during the day," says Yershova, a 41-year-old sales clerk, "but everyone is frightened at night. I have two small daughters and they have begun asking me at bedtime if we are all going to wake up in the morning."

It is a common reaction in a city of 10 million that last week looked like it was under siege. On the streets, thousands of heavily armed police guarded subway, schools and other vulnerable public places while checking everything from prospects to potential hiding places for explosives. In the rundown southeastern district where the big bombs, weighing at least 300 kg each, went off,

residents in similar buildings covered their windows with crossed strips of tape against the force of any further blast. Across the city, residents formed self-protection committees and drew up lists of volunteers to watch over their buildings.

The blast in Moscow—and across Russia—already dwarfed in total death toll and sheer terror a combination of the bomb attacks on the Oklahoma City, Okla., federal building (1994

156 dead) and New York City's World Trade Center (1993, six dead). It is an appalling tally. On Sept. 9, an explosion destroyed a nine-story Moscow apartment building, killing 94 people. Four days later, another blast six kilometers away leveled an eight-story block, claiming 118 lives. Three days after that, 17 people died after a parked truck carrying explosives blew up near an apartment building in the southern city of Volgograd. Nor were these the first. Investigators were still looking for connections with an Aug. 31 bomb attack on a Moscow shopping mall, which killed one and injured 90, and with a car bomb attack on a residence housing military families in the troubled southern region of Dagestan, where 64 died on Sept. 4. Last Friday, another bomb attack killed two in an apartment in St. Petersburg, Russia's second-largest city, but officials initially doubted it was part of the same pattern.

Just who was behind the attacks remained murky. Few Moscovites believed criminal suggestions that the city's notorious criminal gangs—or even gun lords—might be responsible. Instead, leading government figures were quick to claim that separatism from the breakaway Muslim enclave of Chechnya in the Caucasus was carrying out a campaign of terror across Russia. That suspicion was reinforced by the attacks in nearby Volgograd and Dagestan. Moscow police came down hard on the more than one million Caucasians in the capital, meaning massive searches and roundups of darker-skinned residents. Yet some cynical analysts argued that the Kremlin itself, awash in allegations of corruption and scandals, might use the bombings as a pretext for declaring a state of emergency and cancelling parliamentary elections that are scheduled to be held in December.

In a national TV broadcast, President Boris Yeltsin avoided linking the bomb attacks to Chechen-led Islamic militants who have been fighting federal troops in neighboring Dagestan since August. Yeltsin may have been aware that some members of Russia's security services, who do suspect the Chechens, also believe that the terrorists use less conspicuous SVU operatives to plant the explosives. "The priority does not have a conscience, shows no sorrow and is without bounds," said Yeltsin, who sat slumped in his chair, speaking slowly and slurring some of his words. "It has no face, nationality or belief. Let me stress—no nationality, no belief."



Devastation after the Sept. 13 blast, officials blamed separatism from the Muslim enclave of Chechnya

That foundation cast a wide enough net to take in Osama bin Laden, the millionaire Saudi Arabian terrorism supporter. Russian military intelligence and security agencies claim he has unleashed millions of dollars in the struggle to break Russian rule over the Caucasus. "It is obvious to us," said Yeltsin's latest prime minister, Vladimir Putin, "that both in Dagestan and in Moscow, we are dealing not with independent fighters but rather with well-trained, international terrorists."

Moscow Mayor Yuri Luzhkov, a potential presidential contender next year, didn't hold anything back in firing blame. "We say that the source of these explosions lies with Chechen bandits," charged Luzhkov, who has long advocated isolating Chechnya behind a heavily fortified and guarded frontier strip—a sort of Berlin Wall of the Caucasus. He brushed off details from the Chechen government.

**Moscow's relations** with the Chechen capital of Grozny, never good since the breakaway republic declared the Russian military and won de facto independence in 1996, have been strained to the breaking point recently. The Chechen government insists it is not involved in the fighting in Dagestan. But that didn't stop Russian warplanes from bombing villages inside Chechnya in early September in an attempt to cut off supplies to about 2,000 Islamic fighters who insulated the neighboring republic for the second time in little more than a month. And last week Russian forces launched fresh strikes against suspected guerrilla bases.

Leading these well-armed federalist forces, who want to strip Chechnya and Dagestan under strict Muslim rule, was a man who is widely feared and feared in Russia. Shamil

Ruslanov. The bearded, 34-year-old warlord was one of the rebel's top field commanders during the 20-month Chechen conflict. He gained particular notoriety by mounting a 1995 hostage-taking raid into southern Russia that left more than 100 civilians dead. The Russian army has been slow to release casualty figures from Dagestan. But before Ruslanov's fighters retreated across the largely unmarked border to their bases in Chechnya last week, they had killed at least 300 soldiers on the federal side. And by turning large sections of Dagestan into a war zone they have aroused questions about the Russian army's combat readiness, the Kremlin's ability to hold on to the Caucasus and even Yeltsin's fitness to rule Russia.

Ruslanov and his associates have denied that they are responsible for the terror campaign in Russia. "We are carrying out an open war with Russian armed forces," declared one of Ruslanov's senior lieutenants, a Saudi Arabian living in Chechnya who uses the name Khamzat. "We have never even considered killing, depriving, peaceful citizens with bombs and shells." Nevertheless, Igor Zubov, Russia's deputy minister of the interior, maintained that investigation has types of telephone conversations that link Khamzat and Ruslanov to the bombings in Moscow. "We can definitely say that they were behind the blast," said Zubov. Police also seized about 17 tonnes of smuggled explosives disguised as bags of sugar from a factory in the North Caucasus region. It was found in the same district as the two apartment bombings—with about two tonnes missing.

Despite those claims of progress, residents standing guard over their homes at night was aware that explosives are widely available in Russia—and bombs were still going off. Unless investigators come up with a real break in the case, many scared and mad ordinary Russians believe they will simply have to look out for themselves. ■



Mourning victims in Moscow residents formed self-protection committees and organized volunteers to watch buildings



Rounding a drive  
near Shalston, N.C.,  
the worst floods ever

World United States

# A stormy season

Why big hurricanes like Floyd are on the rise

By Andrew Phillips  
in Wilmington, N.C.

Hurricanes are a personal thing for Joanne O'Connell. Her house, barely 200 m from an artery on the coast of North Carolina, bears the scars of just storms. On the garage wall, above a mere above the floor, is a line marking the height the waters reached the last time a hurricane pushed them in three

years ago. "From Lisa—305/96" reads the inscription beside it. Last week, she had another line to add, just 10 cm below the one, showing the level of the water raised by Hurricane Floyd. "It's what we do here," she said. "Get out, come back, clean up."

More than two million Americans along about 1,500 km of the Atlantic coast, from the tip of Florida almost to Virginia, had just that in what officials called the largest protective evacuation in U.S. history.

Forecasters had predicted that Floyd would be a powerful Category 4 storm, capable of devastating the coast with winds of up to 250 km/h. Most played it safe by fleeing inland in a mass exodus that predictably stalled highways and clogged airports. Airports shut down and Disney World in Orlando, Fla., closed for the first time ever. As it turned out, Floyd's bulk was much worse than its base. After hitting the Bahamas, it veered north rather than slamming directly into Florida. And when it came ashore at 5 a.m. last Thursday near the sparsely settled Cape Fear River just 30 km southwest of O'Connell's home, it had been downgraded to a Category 2 hurricane with winds reaching 177 km/h.

That was enough to topple trees, destroy leaving houses and down power lines, leaving hundreds of thousands of people without electricity. Worse, Floyd dumped the water it picked up in its trek across the Atlantic all along the Eastern Seaboard before winding down into a typical late summer storm in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. It poured as much as 48 cm onto places like the historic port city of Wilmington, N.C., where it came ashore. North Carolina suffered its worst flooding

ever, in surging water cut scores of roads and inundated thousands of homes. Regionally, as many as 18 deaths were blamed on Floyd—including that of a man who drowned when he tried to drive across a flooded road.

Even before Floyd swept up the coast, it had been a bad year for big winds. An average year sees 10 tropical storms in the Atlantic, including five hurricanes. Just halfway through this hurricane season, which runs from August to mid-October, there have been seven tropical storms—five of them hurricanes. It points to several factors. The ocean has been unusually warm, about 31° to 32° C, with the warm layer extending deep into the water. And La Niña, the expansion of cold water in the eastern Pacific, has played a big role. It has shifted the west-to-east jet stream over North America to the north. As a result, those cold winds have not been streaming eastward across the Pacific, and therefore not doing their usual job of breaking up groups of storms in the eastern Atlantic before they can form into hurricanes.

Finally, says David Phillips, senior climatologist with Environment Canada, hurricanes seem to occur in cycles. The early 1990s saw relatively few big storms. But now, adds Phillips, "we are in the beginning of an active period."

That is no comfort to people along the Atlantic coast, especially those in areas like the southwestern corner of North Carolina, which hurricanes find a particularly treacherous target. Folks there live off the names of big storms with the easy familiarity of Montrealers reading road snowfalls.

Bob Powell, 53, was out just after dawn last Thursday checking the night's damage to his home in Wilmington. A 30-m peach tree had been blown over and was gently leaning on the roof of his bungalow. But Powell was unfazed. "In '84, we had Dennis, in '86 we had Bertha, then there was Fran and Bonnie and a couple of weeks ago it was Dennis," he said. "I reckon we're getting pretty good as it by now."

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# Help at last



Refugee camp in Kupang, West Timor, in Dili. There's nobody left to shoot at

By Warren Canagata in Jakarta

In the basketball arena in Kupang, West Timor, the young boy was all kitted out in his I.A. Lakers jersey and shorts. A refugee, he looked about 12 years old, one of the thousands of victims of two weeks of violence in East Timor. But while he sported a fine pair of running shoes, basketball was the furthest thing from his mind. "That outfit was all he had," said Ken Saragita, Canada's ambassador to Indonesia, after a visit last week to refugee camps in the Indonesian province of West Timor, which shares a mountainous island north of Australia with its devastated neighbour. "He didn't know where his family was, nothing. He was just sitting there in a corner." The indoor basketball arena, Saragita said, was home to about 10,000 people. "And that was one of the good camps."

Poison and death are all the people of East Timor have known since the United Nations announced on Sept. 4 that 78 per cent of them had voted for independence from Indonesia after 24 years of occupation. But last week, help was finally on the way. In Darwin,

Australia, 720 km south of the East Timorese capital of Dili, a multinational peacekeeping force, which will include Canadians, was starting to train. An advance force was expected to arrive in Dili by early this week. The UN began dropping food and blankets to some of the 150,000 people taking refuge in the mountains. In Dili itself, the stores had finally turned quiet. "It's looted and destroyed," Saragita said. "There's nobody left to shoot at, there's nothing left to burn."

Incredibly, Indonesian soldiers, after sponsoring the orgy of violence against those who opposed a continued link with Jakarta, were reported to be sweeping the streets, cleaning up for the peacekeepers. But the reputation the Australian-led UN force would get was still an open question.

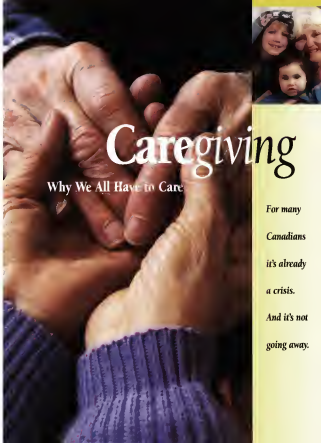
The mission, authorized by the UN Security Council to use "all necessary means" to bring peace, gained assistance from Jakarta that remaining Indonesian soldiers would co-operate, after the 20,000-strong contingents began a gradual withdrawal last week.

Previously, however, Indonesia announced it had cancelled its military co-operation treaty with Australia. And senior Indonesian officials warned that the military-backed, pro-Jakarta militia responsible for Timor's suffering held deep animosity for the West, and Australia in particular. One militia commander said his troops would "test the hearts of those who come to East Timor." Australian officials warned that their soldiers would retaliate if attacked.

Canada's full role was still being worked out. Although Prime Minister Jean Chrétien pledged up to 600 soldiers, Defence Minister Art Eggleton said the Canadian Forces are "stretching" and might send only 250 ground troops. Currently the 60,000-strong military has about 5,000 troops stationed overseas in various peacekeeping missions, including 1,500 in Kosovo and 1,500 in Bosnia. They regularly rotate back to Canada, making the full force involvement much larger. Chrétien later said that while ground forces will under discussion, 100 pilots, mechanics and support personnel on two Hercules aircraft would land in Australia by next weekend, and the naval supply ship *Providence*, with about 250 aboard, would arrive by about Oct. 11.

In any event, military brass trained the ground troops next five undergo a 60-day period of inoculation against tropical diseases, meaning a late October arrival. But Canada could help in other ways once peace is restored. Officials said it could send police officers, administrators and legal experts.

International organizations will meanwhile try to put numbers on Timor's horror. Hundreds, more likely thousands, have died. Up to 200,000 refugees have crowded into West Timor. In the camps, Saragita noted that there were virtually no young men—wild reports that militia separated men from their families in refugee colonies. East Timor's short and violent nightmare may be drawing to an end, but the trauma will last long. ☐



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**A**lmost three million Canadians are providing care to a family member – usually a parent or other elderly relative – with expectations sagging from excessive physical and emotional stress to reduced income through lost time on the job.

By 2016, those of us over age 65 will climb by eight per cent to more than four million, Statistics Canada forecasts. Within 10 years the first wave of baby boomers will meet a virtual explosion of the senior population that will last for at least three decades.

"That's the real crunch," says Sharon Sheldberg-Grey, President and CEO of the Canadian Healthcare Association, who points out that Canadians are saving social programs hundreds of millions of dollars annually by providing unpaid care to family members.

Not only will there be more of us in our senior years, but thanks to medical advances, we will be living longer – many of us to well past 90.

The most tragic and difficult situations involve families coping with Alzheimer's or other forms of dementia. By 2010, the number of Canadians with dementia will reach 790,000, according to the Alzheimer Society of Canada.

Depression, anxiety, exhaustion, sleep loss, personality changes and unending feelings of guilt are typical symptoms experienced by caregivers. Underlying it all is the monetary cost of care that too frequently places families and individuals in precarious financial straits.

Most likely poor are women who have outlived both their spouses and their incomes. In fact, 40 per cent of women over age 75 live in poverty, Statistics reports.

While most caregivers are between 45 and 64, many care providers are senior themselves. Those who lack a family support structure are forced to become their own caregivers.

That will increasingly become the norm as close to 10 million baby boomers move into their senior years. The decline in the birth rate that followed the baby boom means today's 30-year-olds will be overwhipped by the near-potential growth in the elderly population of those over 65 in their 40s and 50s.

Boomers have to quickly learn how to become competent caregivers – for their parents now and for themselves as the senior-care disaster looms – and they must learn to navigate the confusing patchwork of services now available across Canada, says Sheldberg-Grey.

But do not count on Canada's beleaguered health-care system to hold us out in the near future. Ottawa and the provinces, in organizing, renewed funding of Canada's social programs, must include national standards for home care accessible to all Canadians, Sheldberg-Grey adds.

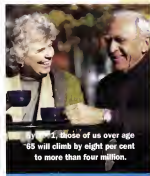
"That would include all kinds of support to the caregiver who should be viewed as the front post as

much as the person requiring care," she insists. "It wouldn't be just home care – there would be all kinds of community support services."

"Without that, frankly, the load of caregiving is just going to be so heavy that more Canadians will just collapse under the burden," Jan Febrary's federal "health-care budget," transferring \$11.5 billion into provincial health programs over five years, may help open the door to a national home-care program – something Health Minister Allan Rock has long advocated. But agreement on such a program will never happen without public pressure.

Freelance providing care for the elderly are labouring now with a two-tier system, she says. Some can buy the additional services they need and those who can't afford it are left to their own devices. Caregivers and the elderly, along with advocacy, health-care and community organizations representing them, need to lobby aggressively for changes in the system, Sheldberg-Grey says.

"Together we have a lot of voices, but we have to make the changes happen in time for us to breathe life – in other words, we can't wait for 20 years."



By 2016, those of us over age 65 will climb by eight per cent to more than four million.



Caregiving



"Together we have a lot of voices, but we have to make the changes happen in time for us to breathe life – in other words, we can't wait for 20 years."

Sharon Sheldberg-Grey  
President and CEO of the  
Canadian Healthcare  
Association

## Newfoundland Woman, 89, Devotes Her Life to Family

Anne Kneer never thought of herself as a caregiver. She has simply spent most of her 88 years doing what comes naturally: looking after her family.

Since the 1930s, this Topsham, Nfld., woman has been primary caregiver for her late husband's parents, for her own mother, who died at age 95, and for her severely disabled son Kenneth, who died suddenly in late July at age 67.

As a child, Kenneth was diagnosed with juvenile spinal muscular atrophy and was not expected to live beyond age 21. But until his sudden death from a heart attack, Kenneth remained mentally fit, though his physical disability progressively worsened. Confined to a wheelchair, he was able to eat with one hand. Two other

adult children in the family were less severely disabled with the same condition.

In 1958, Bernard Kneer dropped dead of a heart attack in front of his wife, leaving her with fifty dollars and six children to provide and care for. "I went into shock for a while, but when I came out of it I realized I had a challenge to face and I had to look for work," Mrs. Kneer says.

For the next 15 years she worked in a series of jobs, rising at six in the morning and ending her workday 10 hours later — all the time providing care for Kenneth. Throughout it all Mrs. Kneer received no caring support or any extra financial help from the government. She had to till Kenneth and dress him daily in spite of a back injury she suffered long ago.

In October, 1978, Mrs. Kneer received Atlantic Canada's first Caregiver of the Year Award. Anne

from the recognition, the \$30,000 award was particularly welcome for a woman who at no time has had an income of more than \$1,000 a month. But her cheerful nature offsets no hint that her life of caring has been a burden.

Now with Kenneth gone from her life, Mrs. Kneer will have to think more about caring for herself, says her brother, Judge Lloyd Wade. "It's not the end, but now she's the one who will be needing the care."

### A Caregiver's Guide to Success

1. Make a realistic financial plan. Get financial advice if necessary.
2. Keep lines of communication open among family members. Deciding who is best suited as the primary caregiver is based on discussion, not assumption. Include the care recipient in the discussion.
3. Get help around your caregiving. And remember: so will you be helped.
4. Remember that other caregivers are the best source of unconditional support. Reach out. Join a support group.
5. Seek out community support: respite care, palliative care, disease-specific organizations, counselling services, emergency response services.
6. Learn about the medical condition of the care recipient so you will know what to expect and what to do to maintain the recipient's independence.
7. Be as advocate, build or strengthen ties with doctors, health-care professionals, medical and service agencies.
8. Ask questions. "I don't know" is a healthy start in gaining knowledge and finding solutions.
9. Remember that less means doing what people need, not necessarily what they want.
10. Maintain your own physical and mental health, thoughts, friendships and activities. Above all, keep a sense of humour.

## Canadians Need to Explore End-of-Life Issues

Death and dying. Not topics that most people want to discuss or even think about. But what will happen when someone you are caring for is dying? Do you know what they want in the final stages of their life?

One end-of-life option is hospice palliative care — a specialized form of care that meets the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of terminally ill patients of all ages and their loved ones in a supportive environment — be it at home, in a hospital or in a specialized hospice facility.

There are currently more than 400 programs and services available in the hospice palliative care network across Canada that bring family members, friends, physicians, nurses and volunteers together as a caregiving team to help patients live their final days in a relatively pain-free, peaceful and supportive environment.

For more information about local hospice palliative care services, call The Canadian Palliative Care Association at 1-877-203-6816.

This information is brought to you by The Glene Wilmore Foundation and the "Living Lessons" Hospice Palliative Care Program.

## What everybody wants. And nobody wants to talk about.

At some point, in some way, we must all face the end of life. It's not a subject we discuss easily in our society.

Yet almost everyone shares the same hope: if faced with a life-threatening disease, we want to live to the end with dignity and comfort. We want to be free from pain. We want family and friends around us. We don't want to be a burden.

In short, we want quality of life for the last stages of life — for ourselves and for those we love.

Quality of life for the last stages of life is what hospice palliative care is all about. For the last 25 years, hospice palliative care organizations in Canada have been providing physical, emotional and spiritual support to people with life-threatening illness and to their families. That wealth of experience, earned at the bedside of thousands of Canadians, has taught us fundamental lessons about living at the end of life.

Above all, we have learned that when the needs of patients and loved ones are sensitively met, the journey toward death — though always difficult — can be a rich experience that gives meaning and completeness to life.

But we also know that far too many Canadians still face advanced disease in pain, isolation and despair.



And far too many families feel helplessly unable to cope with the caregiving needs of a loved one.

We must make quality end of life care available to all Canadians. To do this, we'll have to start talking about it. The hospice palliative care movement — in partnership with The Glene Wilmore Foundation — has launched the *Living Lessons* campaign to open a dialogue about end of life care.

Talk about what you want at the end of life. Find out about hospice palliative care services in your community. Discuss your opinions with family and friends, your physician. Urge your local and national policy-makers to make end of life care a priority.

Quality of life for the last stages of life is what we all want. Let's start talking about it.

To find out how a hospice palliative care organization can help you — or how you can help hospice palliative care — call 1-877-203-6816.

The *Living Lessons* campaign, presented in partnership with the Canadian Palliative Care Association and hospice palliative care organizations across Canada, is part of The Glene Wilmore Foundation's commitment to supporting the growth of the hospice palliative care movement in Canada.



The Hospice Palliative Care Movement in Canada



Canadian Palliative Care Association  
National association of hospice palliative care



## Know What Benefits Are Due to You

Too many Canadians are not aware of what they are entitled to – or are not entitled to – in government benefits.

Take the case of a 65-year-old Ontario woman who was surviving on her basic Canada Pension Plan and Old Age Security payments of only \$689 a month. She had not been aware that she was eligible for the Guaranteed Income Supplement of almost \$400 more.

Peter Hobday, senior program manager for the Old Age Security program in Ottawa, says 15 million Canadians were notified by letter this year telling them how to apply, if they qualify, for the supplement. And starting this year, it became much easier for pensioners to access the benefit by simply filing an income tax return.

A single pensioner with an income of \$11,300 a year or less qualifies for the supplement. Those who qualify, but have not been collecting the benefit, can apply later and receive up to 12 months of benefits retroactively.

Seniors and their caregivers who need information and application forms for government benefits, should contact the Income Security Program Branch of Human Resources Development Canada at 1-800-277-9914 (English) or 1-800-277-9915 (French). There are other federal or provincial benefits that some seniors may qualify for, including the Spouse's Allowance. Information on these can be obtained by calling the same number.

## VON Volunteer Order of Nurses Takes Lead Role in Caregiver Alliance

Canadians have to make themselves clearly heard about their needs by all levels of government and by the health-care community.

For that reason, the Volunteer Order of Nurses for Canada is leading a coalition of organizations to advocate on behalf of family caregivers. One of the Caregiver's Alliance includes strategies to promote support to caregivers, increase local caregiver needs and a complete range of services for care recipients.

"It's important for caregivers to know that there is a mechanism for having a voice," says Jay Pankin, acting CEO for VON Canada.

Other organizations involved in forming the coalition include the Alzheimer Society of Canada, Canadian Association for Community Care, Canadian Mental Health Association, Canadian Red Cross Society, The Peter Dinkov Network, Volunteer Alliance Canada, Health Canada's Home Care Development Team and Caregiver Network Inc.

Information can be obtained by calling:  
1-800-VON-CARE (1-800-886-2273)

## Why Care About Caregiving?

Right now in North America there are approximately 37 million baby boomers who, over the next decade will be facing the role of caregiver to a parent, relative or elderly friend.

Almost 88 per cent of this dilemma is provided by family members. Unfortunately, most adult children are unprepared to assume such a caregiving role – most often that not they are afraid into such a role without warning, because of a sudden illness or injury.

In addition, there are thousands of seniors struggling to provide care for an ill spouse with too little education or support.

That is why Kaye Henderson, herself an informal caregiver for over 13 years, founded Caregiver Network, Canada's only national resource centre dedicated to making caregivers' lives easier through information on the Internet at [www.caregiver.ca](http://www.caregiver.ca), education via seminars, and various types of caregiver support.

For more information, contact Kaye Henderson directly at (416) 323-1280 or by email at [kayeh@caregiver.ca](mailto:kayeh@caregiver.ca).

## Public:

### Government/Agencies/Organizations/Services

Accessible Transportation  
1-800-885-6476 (voice)  
1-800-423-3323 (TTY)  
Alzheimer Society of Canada  
1-800-455-6876  
Assemblies of God (about 40 clinics throughout the Canada)  
673-541-7000  
Assistive Devices & Home Oxygen Program  
1-888-268-0421  
Canada Pension Plan (Income Security Programs)  
1-800-277-2594  
Canadian Association for the Elderly-Plus  
416-583-8743  
Canadian Kidney Society  
1-800-544-1838  
Canadian Association for Community Care  
673-541-7252  
Canadian Council on Health Services Accreditation  
613-736-3000  
Canadian Healthcare Association  
613-841-4005  
Canadian Home Care Association  
673-560-1500  
Canadian Medical Alert Foundation  
1-800-880-1567  
Canadian Medical Association  
613-739-3001  
Canadian Palliative Care Association  
1-800-695-2100  
Canadian Pall Care Society  
1-800-645-8300  
Canadian Spinal Cord Association  
1-800-960-5104  
Confederation Foundation of Canada  
1-800-895-9175  
Family Service Canada  
613-739-8000  
Health Canada, Home Care Development Team  
613-941-9233  
Hear and Stroke Foundation of Canada  
1-888-475-9038  
Income Security Programs  
1-800-277-9914  
Kidney Foundation of Canada  
1-800-948-8811  
Laird Fund National Office (Veterans Parent Services)  
1-800-445-7113  
Lifeline Services Alert Program (voluntary service of Canada Post)  
1-800-267-1177  
Lifeline Canada  
1-800-367-8138  
National Anti-Poverty Association  
613-760-5000  
National Clearinghouse on Family Violence  
1-800-957-1291 (voice)  
1-800-561-5543 (TTY)  
National Pensioners and Senior Citizens Federation  
416-251-7042  
North American Chiropractic Association of Canada  
1-800-418-2746  
Oscar Wainwright Adjustment Branch, Human Resources Development Canada  
1-888-587-1516

## Dear Nurse Sisters Network

613-238-7124  
Osteoporosis Society of Canada  
1-800-423-8942  
Pain Relief Foundation of Canada  
1-800-565-9850  
Pain Relief Canada (basic information on federal government programs and services)  
1-800-957-5885 (voice)  
1-800-957-7336 (TTY)  
St. Vincent's Hospital (Toronto and Quebec)  
In Montreal: Chiropractic Injury Service 1-800-850-8880  
In Quebec: 1-800-333-1380  
Royal Canadian Legion, Centennial Command  
673-225-4201  
Seniors Info Network, Division of Aging and Seniors, Health Canada  
673-580-1308  
Volunteer Order of Nurses Canada  
673-223-0574  
Volunteer Canada  
1-800-670-6826  
War Veterans Allowances Inquiry Line  
1-800-367-6313

Produced in association with the Caregiver Consortium.

Almost 80 per cent of Alzheimer is provided by family members. More often than not they are thrust into such a role without warning, because of sudden illness or injury.



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#### Journalist imprisoned

A Canadian journalist in Malaysia began serving a six-week prison sentence after being convicted of criminal contempt of court over an article he wrote on the country's judicial system. The judgment against Murray Hadden, Malaysian bureau chief for the Hong Kong-based *Far Eastern Economic Review* weekly, drew condemnation from U.S. President Bill Clinton and Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Austin. Hadden, 50, opted to go to jail rather than continue his appeals. Upon his release, the Sunbunch, Mal., native will join his wife and children who have already moved to Washington.

#### Mexican exile suicide

Mario Ruiz Mateos, Mexico's former top drug prosecutor, committed suicide in New Jersey, three years into a fight to stop extradition to Mexico. The 46-year-old was facing charges, filed last month in Houston, that he laundered \$14.5 million in suspected drug profits during his term as assistant attorney general on top of charges he covered up for the killing in the 1994 slaying of his brother, presidential candidate Jose Francisco Ruiz Massieu, while accepting millions in bribes from drug traffickers.

#### North Korean pact

Tension between the United States and North Korea eased when the Koreans set aside long-range missile tests in exchange for a spokesman of U.S. authorities—the most sensible gesture towards the secretive Communist government since the end of the Korean War in 1953. The deal allows trade in non-military goods, and transportation and banking between the two countries. The missile program had strained neighboring Japan.

#### Diana jewelry for sale

A necklace worn by Diana, Princess of Wales, at her last official engagement and a matching pair of earrings will be auctioned in New York City on Dec. 16 at minimum bids of \$300,000 (U.S.). She wore the 178-diamond and pearl necklace at a Royal Albert Hall gala performance of *Sense and Sensibility* on June 3, 1997, nearly three months before she died in a car crash.

## A massacre in a Texas church

Larry Ashbrook was haunted by personal demons. That was clear from two troubling, paranoid-filled letters the 47-year-old Texas wrote in the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* this summer. On the evening of Sept. 15, those demons got the better of him. Ashbrook barged into a service for teenage students at Wadsworth Baptist Church in Fort Worth, brandishing



Teenagers grieve outside the church parsonage

a .45-caliber handgun and began shooting. Armed with a home-made pipe bomb, which he rolled down an aisle, and two large handguns, he fired in several directions, killing seven people and wounding seven, three seriously. One witness said Ashbrook looked relaxed and smoked a cigarette throughout the rampage. It ended when he sat in the back row, put a gun to his head and pulled the trigger. "I don't know that we'll ever know the answer to the ques-

tion of why it happened," said FBI agent Robert Gentry. Ashbrook killed the church's 36-year-old choir director, two 25-year-old seminarian students and four teenagers, three of whom were just 16. "Two of the slain seminarians, you think you can put your child in at the school and the church," said teacher Ben Davis, who knew some of the victims. "You think you don't have to worry. When that's violated, it's really upsetting."

## Canadians kidnapped in Ecuador jungle

Seven employees of Edmonton-based Uzuad Pipeline Systems and a Belgian resident of Montreal were among 12 foreigners abducted in the dense forest of northwestern Ecuador, near the Colombian border. The heavily armed kidnappers, who spoke with Colombian accents, did not wear ransom demands or any statements. Experts on the region said the guerrillas likely belonged to the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), but FARC, which officially pledged to avoid attacks in Ecuador, insisted it was not involved.

## The granny spy

When he defected to Britain in 1952, former KGB archivist worked Valia Mitnikin brought with him dozens of top-secret documents he had copied by hand. His papers form the basis of a new book, *The Spies and the Shredder* by British historian Christopher Andrew, which reveals the extent of Soviet espionage in the West during the Cold War. Included are plots to

stockpile explosives in the United States and to destabilize the Canadian oil and gas industry. The book, titled *The Mitnikin Archive* in Britain, also exposes former secretary Melita Norwood, now an 87-year-old grandmother living in London, as a Soviet spy who passed atomic secrets to Moscow for more than 35 years, starting in 1957. The British government began an inquiry after critics asked why she was never charged.

As Air Canada goes on the offensive against Onex's bid, the horizon fills with a flock of alternatives

# The Sky's the Limit

By Ross Laver

For a man whose company's future is on the line, Air Canada CEO Robert Mulon seems to be in an awfully good mood these days. On the surface, it's hard to see why: two months after taking the top job at the Montreal-based carrier, the 39-year-old wunderkind is being forced to defend his company against Onex Corp.'s hostile bid to merge it with archival Canadian Airlines International Ltd. Yet colleagues insist that Mulon is an optimist. "Whenever I see him these days, he's smiling," says one. "He gets a terrific adrenaline charge from this. It's not just the cut and thrust of corporate battle that Mulon appears to enjoy. Privately, Air Canada receives an Onex chairman Gerry Schwartz has, in one sense at least, done the airline a favour. "One of the best things that's happened in this process," says a senior Air Canada official, "is that Gerry Schwartz has sold the country on

why we need our major national and international carrier."

Around Air Canada, that has been the view for years. In fact, Mulon's bid has been the company's approach to Canadian Airlines with its own merger proposal last winter, well before Schwartz decided to bid. The existence of the offer was never made public, but sources say Air Canada was ready to buy the Calgary-based company provided that Canadian first took steps to address its \$1-billion debt, if necessary by going into receivership. "Our position was that the combined debt of the two firms would sink the new entity and that we, Air Canada, already had enough debt," says an Air Canada representative. "What we didn't need were Canadian's problems."

Canadian swiftly rebuffed Air Canada's offer, in part because its 33-per-cent equity shareholder, AMR Corp., the parent of American Airlines, refused to surrender effective control of the Calgary company. This summer, Air Canada

publicly floated another proposal, which would have entailed buying Canadian's international routes and leaving the smaller carrier to carry on as a purely domestic operation. Again Canadian and AMR said no, but by then they were secretly preparing to turn the tables on Air Canada by throwing their support behind Onex.

This week, Air Canada's board of directors will issue an official appeal to the airline's shareholders to reject the Onex deal, expanding on the reasons it believes the offer is unacceptable. The directors will also review several possible counterproposals, one of which may be an Air Canada-led merger involving one or more of its international partners, such as Lufthansa and United Airlines. "In situations like this, the first thing you do is concentrate on your defence, and I think we've done that," a high-level Air Canada official says. "Then you work on your offensive strategy and take a look at the various alternatives."

Mulon and his team are not ruling anything out. But few people believe the status quo is an option. Even many Air Canada supporters agree that, regardless of who prevails, the airline sector is destined for a wholesale restructuring. Based on interviews with airline executives and industry analysts, there appear to be at least four possible outcomes.

**1. Onex wins**  
Even the diverse defence strategy could fail if it is the end, Schwartz is prepared to pay more for Air Canada than any other bidder. But in that event, says David Gillin, a business professor and aviation expert at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, Ont., it's likely that Onex will impose limits on the merged airline's monopoly power. "The government," he says, "would have to go out of its way to protect the regional carriers and any potential non-entrant that came into the market." (Already, there are rumours that a business group is putting together plans for a new domestic airline focused on the heavily travelled Toronto-Ottawa-Montreal triangle.) An Onex victory, Gillin says, might also prompt Ottawa to ease the current restrictions on airline foreign ownership so as to encourage more competition.

Schwartz is pushing to achieve numbers, Mulon (far left) the industry is in for a turbulent shake-up

## 2. Air Canada remains independent

One of the most potent weapons in the Montreal-based airline's arsenal is an existing federal law that prevents any single shareholder from owning more than 10 per cent of Air Canada. The Onex bid cannot go forward unless that rule is repealed. A key part of Air Canada's strategy, one supporters say, will likely be to urge the federal Liberals to stand firm on the 10-per-cent limit, on the grounds that eliminating it would effectively allow U.S. investors to take control of Canada's major national carrier. If the tactic succeeds, Schwartz will almost certainly have to abandon his bid.

But Air Canada might pay a heavy price for victory. Ottawa has repeatedly signalled its determination not to allow Canadian to fail. To ensure its survival, some analysts say, the government could intervene—for example, by transferring Air Canada's Asian routes to the smaller carrier and strengthening Canadian's hold over its Vancouver hub.

## 3. Air Canada buys Canadian

Under this scenario, Air Canada would probably take over all international routes and operate Canadian through a holding company as a purely domestic carrier. Air Canada would endeavor to sell this as a trade-in-Canadian solution to the industry's problems, although it would still have to find some way of accommodating American Airlines, perhaps by joining American's OneWorld marketing alliance. "Would Americans sell up with a piece of Air Canada?" an Air Canada official asked rhetorically. "Who knows?" There are many ways of making it work. As with an Onex victory, the resulting merger of Canada's two national carriers would involve some degree of additional government regulation to protect customers and ensure the monopoly airline did not engage in predatory tactics to drive smaller, regionally based carriers out of the market.

## 4. AMR buys Canadian Airlines

Despite holding only a quarter of the voting shares, AMR's agreement with Canadian allows it to veto any change in ownership. There is also an agreement in the Onex deal that any purchaser of Canadian honour its marketing alliances and long-term service contracts with AMR. The Onex bid would allow AMR to leverage that position into a significant role in a monopoly national carrier, but that outcome might not find favour with many Canadians. A better solution, says The North, a professor of air transportation at the University of British Columbia, would be for the government to allow AMR to take full control of Canadian. "That way, consumers will continue to benefit from competition and American would be free to run the company very efficiently," Onex says. The bigger obstacle to that outcome is that Onex, like other governments, negotiates landing rights with other countries, but only on behalf of domestically owned carriers.

How will it all play out? Until Air Canada makes public its own preferred solution, most observers will hedge their bets. One Montreal-based analyst says the chances of victory at 40 per cent—less if Lufthansa and United get behind an Air Canada counterbid, but more if Onex and AMR put more money on the table. The poker game has just begun. ■







WHERE 15 MILLION INVESTORS PUT THEIR TRUST

always been open to the public both above and below ground. Vancouver has become the test case. It has been trying to get firms wishing to install or operate new networks to agree to terms that include compensation for solid costs and for the value of access to rights-of-way. At least two firms, MicroNet Communications Corp. and GT Group Telecom Services Corp., have signed agreements with the city that include the contentious terms. But others have balked, arguing that the right to place cable or fiber in public ground is allowed under the Federal Telecommunications

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, 1997.

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# INTERNET Shopping Guide

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## Business

**Aze** But while that law provides for access to lines, it also restricts the amount of interference on a public road and refers disputes to the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission.

The breaking point came last February after a construction company, Vancouver-based Radio Industries Ltd., dug along old railway lands to install fibre-optic cable, crossing 15 ft rights-of-way without municipal approval. Vancouver city managers blamed the work only after it was done—and hit the roof. An exchange of e-mail notes between the city and company went up in flames at the CRTC. In the next few weeks, the federal regulator will call for witness statements, before making a ruling next spring that will affect cities and telecom firms in every province.

At stake for the parties are money and principle. Justice, supported by other players in the rapidly expanding telecom field—including giant BCT Telus Communications Inc. and Rogers Cablevision Ltd.—whose affiliate Rogers Media Inc. owns *Marlewood*—argues that new data networks benefit the economy of cities and that municipalities have no jurisdiction to deny them access to public rights-of-way. "We are not unhappy paying reasonable compensation," insists Lasker spokesman Scott Lyons. Vancouver was seeking a minimum fee of \$30,000 a year. That, says Lyons, "was a different magnitude of fee than we've seen anywhere else in the country." The city, backed by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, says the CRTC has the legal power to require telecom firms to meet conditions set by city governments.

The stakes for consumers, taxpayers and city drivers are also large. While many welcome new communications options, few are pleased by using roads driven, in part, by the need to repair even after a patchwork of repairs. For them, Vancouver's fight holds out hope for some recovery of costs—and maybe a little less frustration behind the wheel.

Chris Wood is Vancouver

## Ford offer assailed

Canadian Auto Workers president Brent Hargrove called the initial wage offer by Ford Motor Co. of Canada "a recipe for a strike." Ford proposed a raise of one per cent in each year of a three-year deal and a signing bonus of \$500 for each of the 12,950 CAW members who work at its plants. The strike deadline is midnight Sept. 21.

## Phone lady calling

Christina Gold, an ex-Montreal and former top executive at Avon North America, is the new chief executive of Dallas-based East Communications Inc., telecom giant Telephony Inc. of Montreal owns East, which specializes in the latest set of U.S. long-distance services. East representatives sign up neighbours and relatives to phone programs—in much the same way Avon and Avon Corp. peddle their wares.

## Inflation's heavy foot

Gasoline prices drove the annual inflation rate up to 2.1 per cent in Canada in August, its highest rate in 2½ years. But the Toronto Dominion Bank said interest rates would not likely rise because other consumer prices have increased only marginally.

## Channelling anger

Share prices of cable firms dropped after the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission ruled they must give viewers a 25-per-cent discount on cable Net services. Ted Rogers, chief executive of Rogers Communications Inc. (whose subsidiary Rogers Media Inc. owns *Marlewood*), lashed out at the decision. "We're talking about trying to force Rogers to subsidize other people's pay huge, hundreds of millions of dollars of investment and our shareholders in creating a brand-new industry."

## Canada Life plan approved

Toronto-based Canada Life Assurance Co. is headed to market with a share offering next month after its policyholders voted 99 per cent in favour of a \$3.7-billion plan to demutualize. It becomes the third Canadian insurer to distribute public shares.

## Business Notes

## Petty takes his leave

George Petty checked the telecommunications industry last week by quitting his job as chief executive of Burnaby, B.C.-based BCT Telus Communications Inc., Western Canada's largest phone company. Petty waited three days before saying he was leaving because "there were no more big pieces to put in place." He was referring to the BCT Telus board's decision not to pursue expensive acquisitions of either Clearnet Communications

Inc. or Call-Net Enterprises Inc., which owns Sprint Canada.

Petty was among three top executives to quit last week, while two others left in July. The turnover prompted industry speculation that Telecom Canada's biggest shareholder, BCT Telus, was unhappy with the pace of national expansion. (Last fall, Petty led the merger of Edmonton's Telus Corp. with B.C. Telecom Inc., which GTE controlled.) But Mike Moss, president of GTE's international operations, says his company is "fairly behind the Telus growth plan."



## Numbers on steroids

Ontario Securities Commission chairman David Brown says the pressure to report strong earnings and keep share prices high has led to corporate practices akin to drug use among stock and field athletes. "We want to get public companies off steroids," he said, "away from the creative use of accounting standards that can enhance reported performance numbers."

## Financial outlook

An investor still has walked over Canadian stock funds, despite their improved performance, causing August's net mutual fund sales to plummet. After sales peaked in the summer, August's net sales of mutual funds fell to \$1.1 billion, down from \$1.5 billion in July.



from \$865.6 million last August. For all of 1999, domestic fund sales fell to negative \$758.6 million as investors cashed out, according to data from the Investment Company Institute of Canada.

Don Richards, president of Marketing Solutions, a Toronto-based consulting firm, compares the trend away from Canadian funds to the aversion by late 1993 to guaranteed investment certificates. "The wind-up ended that. If you owned GICs you were like an investment mason. Mutual funds were the hot, sexy place to be. By next RRRP season, people are going to have had a dramatic change in their heads about if you have invested in Canada, you are at the same state of development."



Ross Laver

## Too good to be true

**Oh dear**—another hotshot Canadian company brought to heel. Landlaw Inc., which only a few years ago was hailed as a stock market darling, announced last week that it is pulling out of the ambulance and worse-management sections in hopes of improving its lackluster financial performance. In April, the troubled transportation company cut 2,200 jobs and took a \$420-million restructuring charge. Five months later, chief executive James Bullock has been forced to announce another meltdown, this one for \$1.5 billion. Ouch.

Laidlaw, however, isn't such an unusual case. If experience is anything to go by, there's a quick and easy way to predict which Canadian companies are headed for a fall. Forget about studying their corporate balance sheets—the fine print will hurt your eyes and, besides, the numbers are often of dubious reliability (more about that later). Instead, pay attention to the press reports and look for those single words that should strike terror into every investor's heart: "stock market darling." When journalists start tossing that phrase around, it probably means it's time to call your broker and sell.

The "market darling" syndrome is somewhat akin to the *Spain Affair* and *Enron* case. In the sports world, it's well known that tennis or athletes who appear on the cover of the U.S. magazine often experience a sudden change of fortune. Instead of winning the championships, they set off on a losing streak or suffer a debilitating injury. One theory is that the extra attention goes to their head and distracts them from the job at hand.

Whatever the cause, it's uncanny how many once-revered Canadian companies have crashed and burned. *Bo-X*, *Mutual* Ltd. is the most notorious example, although in one important respect it differs from most rags-to-riches-to-rags stories. This wasn't a case of a promising company that simply got ahead of itself. *Bo-X* was a fraud from the word go, either one-sided and abetted by an investment industry happy to make its profits wherever it can find them. Similarly, big bookshelves were only too eager to promote former market darling *BYM* *Investment* Inc.—and allegations surfaced that the Toronto Stock Exchange-listed company was running an elaborate money-laundering scheme for the Russian mob.

Study dealings of another sort helped to bring down former high-flyer *Philip Services Corp.* Born in 1990 as a small waste-hauling operation in Hamilton, Philip was, by the mid-1990s, the largest waste recovery firm in North America and one of Canada's fastest-growing companies. Soon after, the company revealed that an employee had rung up \$178 million in losses on unauthorized copper trades. Facing two class-action suits from investors and a \$1.3-billion loss in 1998, Philip recently sought bankruptcy protection in Canada and the United States.

Beyond those few examples, there is a long list of Canadian companies that have been celebrated as shining examples of entrepreneurial prowess, only to come a cropper. Search the phrase "stock market darling" in any news archive and you'll find glowing articles about such now-bumblers like *The Loewen Group Inc.*, *Hormel Hydrocarbons Ltd.*, *Newcourt Credit Group Inc.*, *Cori Corp.* and *Newbridge Networks Corp.* Investors who brought into the hype about these companies and didn't get out of the stock in time—few small shareholders do, for the simple reason that they are usually the last to hear bad news—are probably still mulling their losses and wondering what happened.

**What did happen?** Some, such as *Hormel Hydrocarbons Ltd.*, were victims of circumstances beyond their control—in this case, a drop in oil prices that hurt the entire sector. But in several other instances, there is evidence of aggressive accounting practices that artificially inflated the company's results. Ontario Securities Commission chairman David Brown underscored the problem last week in a speech in which he compared his organization with a sports body trying to run a steroids-free track event: "As the OSC," Brown said, "we want to get public companies off steroids and away from the creative use of accounting standards that can enhance reported performance numbers."

A crackdown on companies that manipulate their earnings so as to mislead shareholders would undoubtedly reduce the number of nasty surprises that await unsuspecting investors. But it won't solve the larger problem, which is the tendency of brokers and investors to get carried away by the euphoria that surrounds a hot company in a promising industry.

For what it's worth, the term "stock market darling" has been applied accurately to *Balfour Power Systems Inc.*, *QCT PhotoTherapeutics Inc.* and, of course, dozens of small Internet startups. But don't worry—none has appeared on the cover of *Spun Illustrated*.



Bullock: a painful retreat

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# TV

## Old Ideas New Packages

By Andrew Clark

Every Canadian knows that autumn brings three constants with it—school, hockey and a new season of TV shows. At school, students learn something new each year (or so parents hope), while hockey invariably offers its share of surprises. On television, no matter how much the networks crow about their new fall lineups, viewers learn the same lesson over and over: never underestimate TV's ability to serve up the same product in a different package. What can Canadians expect on TV in 1999? Well, the new season is bound to produce a handful of shows that appear from nowhere and become enormous hits, like 1998's *Scrubs* and *Futurama*. Of course, there will also be network favorites that viewers reject. Remember *Cop*? No? Nobody does, except the executive who *Q&A*ed the series. Perhaps most predictably, everyone will agree that TV is dead—and then turn around and watch a lot of TV.

Unlike previous fall launches, the 1999 season is riddled with a North American identity crisis. Television execu-

*Scrubs* tore along—and *Ally McBeal* came—  
from Roswell: no plans to destroy the human race



### The fall TV season has the usual doses of dogged detectives, backstabbing big shots and wisecracking kids

tives everywhere agree change, but they cannot read the audience's mood swings. Mainstream networks are trying to look like cable channels, serving up shows with sexually explicit plots and profanity. Or they have opted to create new series by spinning off established franchises. And the xen explosion that began with *Dawson's Creek* and *Futurama* continues to grow, with a plethora of purely programs such as *Friends* and *Geeky*. Canadian networks, meanwhile, are focusing on serious one-hour dramas and movies of the week. Canadian specialty channels are hoping to attract bigger audiences with so-called docu-soaps. And American cable channels, usually, are trying to look like the networks. ABC and HBO, for instance, are producing more big-budget mainstream movies and mini-series.

Public broadcasting in Canada continues to suffer from a host of ailments. Specialty channels, generally owned by private broadcasters such as CTV and CanWest Global, are eating away at the CBC's audience. Added to this

*Mercer* back for a second season with *Made in Canada* and will the deepest satire in Canadian TV comedy

threat everywhere is a federal government seemingly obsessed with carving up Canada's national broadcaster. The CBC's staff has already been cut in the bone and further job reductions are rumored for November. At a stroke, the CBC is offering no new magazine series. Last year, in contrast, the network launched *De Vint's Impact* and *Nightingale* for a *Country*, which both attracted critical praise.

That said, the returning shows are strong. *Made in Canada*, Rick Mercer's satire of life in the Canadian film business, is back for 15 more episodes. The series picks up the exploits of film executive Richard Strong (Mercer) as he tries to climb to the top of the media heap. It is rich with perverted children's-show humor, *Hercules* rip-offs, Hollywood cutes and libidinous media heads. Established stage actor Don Len-

is hilarious as Victor, the cytoplasmic studio vice-president. *Mirror* continues to be the sharpest satirist in Canadian TV comedy.

Da Vinci's *Impostor*, CBC's outstanding series chronicling a coroner's investigations, will be back, although not until November. Producer Chris Hadcock has created a one-hour program that beats any crime drama north, or south, of the border. Canadian veteran Nicholas Campbell delivers a sublime performance as the cynical, Vancouver-based crime solver. The CBC is also airing *Career Life*, a six-episode re-creation from producer and former Alliance head hercho Robert Lamm. It follows the adventures of two detectives, one a French-Canadian woman from the Canadian Security Intelligence Service and the other an Anglo male from the RCMP. Together they walk a narrow, often surreal, uneasy and still find time for the occasional romantic tryst.

In the private sector, CTV is moving *Power Play* and *The City* from their previous time slots to join *Gold Squad* on Friday night. It's the network's attempt to brand the evening to its Canadian niche, as the hope the grouping will make it easier to hold viewers. This year is the make-or-break season for all three shows. *The City* has an international distribution deal and this should shift its focus from last year when most of its plots were anchored in Toronto's underbelly. In other words, more upper-class bed hopping and less social-policy posturing. *Power Play* has yet to fully connect with its intended core audience—hooky fans. But the continued influence of writer Paul Quarrington (*White Heat*), who has a deft touch with dialogue and an in-depth understanding of the sport, should bolster its appeal. And *Gold Squad* returns with a new cast—only its star (Julie Stewart) is back.

CTV is also investing heavily in TV

## Ordinary people, everyday heroes

**The girl giggles** as her stricken parents carry her to an elevator. Since birth, the two-year-old has needed a liver transplant, and the family has just had another consultation with her doctor. But the news was not good: their wait for a donor will continue. Nearby, a TV crew is there to capture how they are coping. Welcome to *Little Miracles*, a nonfiction character of life at Toronto's world-famous Hospital for Sick Children.

The 13-episode, half-hour weekly program, which Life Network will begin showing on Sept. 20, is one of

with these challenges. They are everyday heroes."

Successful docu-soaps are grounded in delicate, non-exploitative partnerships between the filmmakers and their subjects. The participants must feel comfortable with these recording their lives and that requires tremendous self-restraint on the part of the crew. Production teams from both *Little Miracles* and *Downtown Angel* worked closely with hospital administrators and agreed to halt filming at any time the hospital requested. Although neither institution received a fee for its participation, their staffs are a benefit in the exposure. "A series that ran in England brought out an awareness of the hospital they portrayed," says Dr. Alan Goldbloom, vice-president of academic and clinical development at the Hospital for Sick Children. On both Canadian series, patients were first approached by a hospital official, and if they agreed to co-operate, were included in filming. "It is not Cojito," says *Downtown Angel* executive producer Gerry Blye, referring to the U.S. quadricameral self-life crime show. "It is not reaching for the lowest common denominator."

The power of *Little Miracles* and *Downtown Angel* comes from the awareness that most people have of their own fragility. It is impossible to watch either series without feeling like followed by a wave of relief. Even the crew found the process grueling. The producers of *Little Miracles* provided their directors and camera crew with weekly counselling. "We try to check in on each other and see how we're doing," says Singer. "We have to keep track of each other and keep reminding ourselves, this isn't about dying. It's about living."

Andrew Clark



Scene from *Little Miracles*: a delicate partnership between crew and patients

two Canadian hospital "docu-soaps" providing this fall. The other, *Downtown Angel*, which has an debut on the Discovery Channel on Oct. 6, takes viewers into St. Michael's Hospital, also in downtown Toronto. Docu-soaps tell the stories of real people in episodic form.

*Little Miracles* finds drama in the relationships between doctors, relationships between parents and children, between doctors and parents. "You would think that most of the drama takes place in the trauma unit, but a docu," says executive producer Ron Singer. "It takes place in the everyday moments, people coping



Lower: as a presidential spin doctor, he 'takes himself very seriously'

guys and gals, no pet monkeys, *Archie* (Fox, Gals), follows the exploits of a self-absorbed Hollywood producer Peter Dragon (Jay Mohr) as his career is crashing. He turns for help to two unlikely confidantes: a former child-star-turned-whore (Illana Douglas) and a neurotic uncle (Buddy Hackett). Tinged with profanity, which is bleated out, the series pushes network ethics codes (even Fox!) beyond their limits with partial nudity, drugs and waters urinating in a toilet. A lurid veneer, it is intelligent, cutting and funny.

*The West Wing* (NBC, CTV), gives Americans viewers the White House they want to believe exists. There isn't a charming southern president with a penchant for interns as right. Instead, this president (Martin Sheen) makes his very first appearance quoting the Ten Commandments. Don't hold the fact that it is one of the season's most heavily hyped new shows against it. Sheen, who last year launched the critically acclaimed series *Spin City*, has crafted a compelling show. From overwrought scenes up to the minute of many Americans, including abortion, gun control and public

education. It also features a talented ensemble cast, including Rob Lowe, the 1980s heartthrob who has political credentials of a son he was videotaped having sex with two women in an Atlanta hotel room at the 1988 Democratic convention. Lowe survived the scandal and eventually returned his career in Mike Myers's *Wingman* and *Austin Powers* movies. Lowe, 35, who plays Sam Seaborn, the president's spin doctor, gives some of his most thoughtful performances in *The West Wing*. "He's somebody who takes himself very seriously and has dedicated his life to

## The best new shows take viewers inside the movie business or into the White House

*Bob & Margaret*, along with *Travis*, in homage to Bay Street greed. Global continues to place an emphasis on cherry-picking edgy American series and producing documentaries.

Despite the improving quality of many Canadian programs, the biggest hit still seem to come from the United States. The two most engaging American series—*Archie*, from *The Larry Sanders Show* executive producer Chris Thompson, and *The West Wing* from *A Few Good Men* screenwriter Aaron Sorkin—both reflect a cable snuffing. Think of them as the anti-Fox.

There are no groups of good-looking

## Special Report

### Canadian networks are focusing on serious one-hour crime dramas and murder mysteries of the week

achieving a certain level of success," says Lowe. That pretty much describes the tone of the entire show.

So much for regularity. In many instances, network producers are going with proven franchises, making spin-offs the cornerstone of their lineups. *Twice of Your Life* (Global, Fox) is a New York City-based, one-hour drama built around *Party of Five* character Sarah Reeves (Jennifer Love Hewitt). Reeves, who was adopted as a child, heads to the Big Apple to find her birth family. Love and laughs abound. The more calculated spin-off is David E. Kelley's *Ally* (Fox, CTV), a half-hour

version of the hit one-hour series *Ally McBeal*, which follows the trials and tribulations of the rascally-but-serious lawyer (Calestia Rodman). More appropriately entitled *Ally Live*, the series will appeal to only the most *Ally*-obsessed members of society. (As that describes nearly one million people in Canada, the show could do all right.)

*Buff the Vampire Slayer* (WB, Space) has far more glamour to ank their teeth into. Angel chases the nocturnal wanderings of Buffy's intensely husky 246-year-old boyfriend, Angel. The



Stewart, co-star Stephen McHattie, now cast

undead do-gooder acts around urban settings looking vampire-bait.

The most tightly straitjacketed on television, *Law & Order*, is spinning off *Law & Order: Special Victims Unit*

(NBC, CTV). Featuring even more heinous criminals than the original, the spin-off looks at the aftermath of crime. Dana Corda, who was in *Law & Order*'s early seasons, returns to head up a terrific cast, including *Moonlight*'s Richard Belzer and Dean Cain, who has a recurring role on the prison drama *Oz*.

For both conspiracy theorists and fans of *The X-Files*, the word *Roswell* conjures up one of the great cover-ups of all time: the alleged 1947 crash landing of a UFO outside Roswell, N.M. The enduring myth maintains that the fed found live alien on the site and hid the truth about them. Now, there's a one show based on that premise. *Roswell*. But where old-fashioned alienhood is such drama and try to deny the human race, *Roswell*'s alien guys want to go to the gym. Here's Max Evans (Jason Behr) gets his kink: heeling girls by placing his quivering hand upon their hearts and looking longingly into their eyes with a strong (yet vulnerable) gaze. *Roswell* (Fox, CTV) will appeal to teens, many of whom already feel like aliens or believe their parents originate from another star system.

The second best teen show is *Freddie and Gooch*, a series set in 1980s Michigan. Its heroes are nervous and earnest (read: regular teens), trying to find identities while achieving the high-school holy grail—popularity. *Freddie and Gooch* (NBC, WIC-ON) also taps into the burgeoning popularity of 1980s nostalgia. Kids are bored with the 1970s. Get ready for a host of punk rock, soundtrack featuring tunes from obscure bands like Karpagoos, and penny loafers. But by avoiding high-school clichés, *Freddie and Gooch* goes beyond the usual teen fare and stands on its own merits as drama.

Thank the fall. After a long cold winter, spring, then summer, will arrive, bringing flowers, romantic thoughts and mid-season replacements. The networks will announce that, while their fall line-ups were big successes, they have corrected whatever mistakes they might have made. Viewers will forget the bonfire, and focus on the hits. Everyone will agree that TV is dead—and then watch a list more of a—until next fall rolls around, when hope will once again spring eternal. ☐

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# Cool, cute and Canadian

The best new kids' shows are all made in Canada

By Andrew Clark

Andrew Beck first invented Elliot Moose 10 years ago when he entertained his kids with stories of his adventures. Even after they became teenagers, Elliot still held a place in Beck's imagination. She decided to write an Elliot Moose children's book and eventually produced *Elliot's Emergency*, in which Elliot's friends help him mend his injured leg. Beck sent her tale to Kids Can Press, which immediately snapped it up. Just five months later, not only did the Toronto-based publisher name Elliot into the star of his own book series, but Nelson Le Gall, the Toronto-based animator behind such popular hits as *Pippi Longstocking* and *Babar*, created a cartoon series. Today, *Elliot Moose* plays on public television across North America. "I went from submitting an idea," says the 42-year-old Beck, "to reading about myself in trade papers."

Beck's story is increasingly common: Canadian children's television, especially shows based on Canadian kids' books, is booming. In fact, Canadian animators and producers are not just conquering domestic screens; they're beginning to dominate the \$7-billion global kids' TV market. Nelvana, which has offices in Europe and the United States, has the two top shows for kids aged 2 to 5—*Lady Bear and Friends*, which follows the exploits of a young turtle and his friends; *Franklin*, which tells the story of a young boy and his friends. *Franklin* began life as a series of books written by Canadian author Brenda Bougeois and illustrated by Brenda Clark. It airs on both the CBC and Family Channel, and is broadcast in 150 countries. "Thirty years ago, it was impossible for Canadian animators to get distribution in the United States," says Nelvana co-CEO Michael Hirst. "It wasn't until 10 years ago that there was a breakthrough."

That, coupled with a steady stream of

skilled animators graduating from Osseville, Ont.-based Sheridan College, has led to a torrent of Canadian production. Teletoon, Canada's animation specialty channel, has 26 series in production. YTV, whose prime-time schedule is almost exclusively Canadian, has 11 new Canadian series debuting, all of which are also playing in the United States. Alliance Atlantis recently launched a new children's division, Alliance Atlantis Kids. The company will provide production, pre-sales and licensing for a spate of new shows, including *After Huckle*, an old-fashioned-style action cartoon, and *The World of Peter Cument*, a 13-episode series based on the books of American author Thornton W. Burgess.

Foreign broadcasters choose Canadian children's programming because it is generally less violent than American programming and places a greater emphasis on educational value. Montreal-based

Canoe, for instance, has a no-violence policy on all its programming. Canadian kids' television also tends to reflect a child's world with tender accuracy.

"*Franklin* is very reality-based, which is very popular with kids," says Andrew Wilton, vice-president of North

American licensing for Nelvana. "He experiences many of the dilemmas that kids go through. They relate to him and his experiences." Those experiences have travelled well. To date, 20 million *Franklin* books have been sold worldwide, and in the spring a *Franklin* movie is set to hit theaters. "I had no expectations other than to write one children's book," says Bougeois. "I once received a letter from a mother whose child had gotten lost and asked what he remembered from a *Franklin* story to help find his way back. I can't believe how far it's come."

Kids programming is no longer restricted to Saturday mornings. CBC Playground presents



three hours of preschool programming a day in *Angie & Me*, a series of five-minute shows seen as a furry, life-sized puppet. Created by Radical Sheep Productions Inc., the Toronto-based company that also produces the kids' show *The Big Country Cuckoo*, *Angie & Me* revolves around exploration of basic physical concepts, such as how rain is made. *Angie & Me* follows the adventures of a blue hippopotamus and his friends Chie's, a curious chicken, and Geena, an energetic frog. The show, produced by Canoe, combines fanciful settings—Mammothville lives in a wonderland in the face of a deep blue lake—with everyday childhood trappings. The hippo and his gang create a story day using three flashlights, and use a cardboard box to make their own TV shows.

YTV is introducing *I Was a Sixth Grade Alien*, a terrific live-action series for older kids. Based on the collection of novels by award-winning children's author Bruce Coville, the series centers around the fish-out-of-water antics of a purple 12-year-old alien named Ptolemy. With its playful B-movie aesthetic, *I Was a Sixth Grade Alien* is "cool" enough to intrigue jaded 12-year-olds and fanciful enough to hook the youngest. At Multimedia Entertainment Inc., the Vancouver-based company behind such computer-generated hits as *Relink* and *Beavis* brings kids *Wood-Oh*, a show that takes place "somewhere off Route 66" in a town called Woodville. In this peculiar town, speed is king, and characters Digger, Eddie and Ptolemy spend their days drag-racing and dating. It is *Duke of Hazard* meets *Boy Scouts*.

Worship *Dave*, the classic children's novel by Richard Adams, was last given an animated treatment 21 years ago. Toronto production house Decade Entertainment Inc. has teamed up with British animation Alliance Atlantis Entertainment Ltd. to create a 26-episode series. *Worship Dave* tells the story of a woman of rabbits who leave their endangered home to start a new colony. They struggle to survive the heat of predators and an ominous threat from a nearby alien run by the rabbit rabbit General Wombat. The animation is subtle, yet will easily intrigue young viewers. The cast is out-

*Franklin* (far left) came from *Popular Mechanics*; giving a square 'my-dad-made-that' publication the teen treatment

standing, including British actors John Hart, Stephen Fry and Rik Mayall, whom Canadian audiences may know from his work in Lead Foot on the BBC series *Blackadder*.

Global is introducing live-action Canadian series—*Popular Mechanics for Kids*. Yes, that's right. Carving TV producers have taken one of the most square "my-dad-made-that" publications and given it the teen treatment. The show, produced by SDA Productions Inc. of Montreal, has worldwide distribution. *Popular Mechanics for Kids* hosts Bushy Cuthbert, Tyler Kye, Vanessa Lengies and Charles Powell explore in eclectic, fast-paced mix of stories, from underwater theme parks to bodyguard training to a teen-house school.

**Teletoon**, which draws 4 million viewers a week, has two terrific Canadian kids' shows among its new offerings. Decade's *Angie Awaits* is the most innovative kids' series of the season. Stories are anchored in reality. In the first episode, for example, the precocious Angie warns her class to visit a monster-truck rally. Her school, Nanette, was out for the ball. From this mundane plot springs such bizarre events as a version of *Satan* Lake that ends in a muddy pit filled with monster trucks, and the revelation by Angie's father of a hair dryer that "sucks and blows."

*Mega Babies* looks like another winner for Teletoon. The series' concept proves that not every successful cartoon needs educational merit: three bawling babies and their nanny defied the world from evil space invaders. Declares the series promo reel: "They're tiny. They're moiling and they're ready to kick some alien butt." Kids (and quite a few adults) who tune in to such absurd treats as *Space Goo!* and *Ren & Stimpy* will flock to *Mega Babies'* mixture of blubber and cool.

The kids' TV season is so rich that grown-ups, with or without children, may find themselves zoning in. Yet one more reason for those with thinning hair and expanding middlebells to give up for lost youth. ■

*Ptolemy in I Was a Sixth Grade Alien: the unadulterated antics of a purple 12-year-old*



## Small is beautiful

By Brenda Brannwell

**Pierre Chevalier** gave up on the Montreal Alouettes years ago. He had been a season ticket-holder, but lost interest in the Canadian Football League team even before it went out of business in 1987. At the time, the team was in constant turmoil in the front office, and

Playing in a modest stadium, the first-place Alouettes have become Montreal's hot ticket

the product on the field suffered. So when a new Alouettes franchise was launched in 1996, the 53-year-old salesman still stayed away. But last season, his interest piqued by an exciting Alouettes team that played in a cozy outdoor venue instead of the cavernous Olympic stadium, he went to some late-season games and, excited by what he saw, happily paid \$600 for two season tickets that

year last week, while he and a sell-out crowd watched the Alouettes crush the visiting Hamilton Tiger-Cats 52-13. He said he had come to enjoy the no-frills charms of 19,464-seat Molson Stadium. "The ambience is warm, it's intimate and it's fun," he says. "Everybody is really into it."

Sports fans love a great comeback, and few revivals in recent memory can match that of the once-dead Alouettes. How far have they come? Following the Hamilton game, the hockey-focused *Journal de Montreal*, which normally focuses the bulk of its sports-section attention on the NHL, Canadians, raved about the Alouettes on its Sept. 13 front page under the headline "The best show in town!" While baseball's Expos draw tiny crowds to the billion-dollar Olympic Stadium, the Alouettes now boast 10,037 season ticket-holders, up from 2,500 two seasons ago. And average attendance has climbed to 19,265 from 9,000 in 1997—enough to convince team owners to investi-

gate ways to expand the stadium.

Once among the contenders of the league, the Alouettes declared bankruptcy in 1987 after running into major financial troubles under the direction of their mercurial owner, fire-breathing Vancouver entrepreneur Nelson Skaldbala. They were finally resurrected when Larry Smith, a former Alouette, stepped down in 1995 as CFL commissioner to become the team's president, and convinced Robert Weirhall, a New York lawyer and onetime part-owner of the National Football League's New England Patriots, to buy the club. At a lay-juncture for the beleaguered league, which had just suffered an embarrassing collapse of its ill-conceived expansion into the United States, and had franchises in Hamilton and Ottawa that were barely alive, Weirhall's willingness to underwrite the Alouettes was a huge boon. "It was lifeline for the CFL," says Dan Ferraro, president of the Canadian Football League Players' Association. "We could't afford to see another franchise go under at that point."

Weirhall has lost more than \$5 mil-

## Automotive Marketplace ONTARIO

### Leasing versus purchasing:

### what should consumers do?



By Craig Riley

**U**ntil the past few years, most people bought new cars through automobile dealer financing, or bank loans or, in rare instances, straight cash. Leasing vehicles was for businesses, not consumers.

"Today all of that has changed," says Craig Riley, president, Markville Ford Lincoln of Markham, Ont. "At our dealership alone, about 60 per cent of our business is short-term two- to three-year leases for typical consumers. And we expect that percentage to grow."

Is leasing right for you? There are many factors to consider, but above all, Riley recommends that if you do decide to lease, be sure to do it through a manufacturer's lease arrangement available at a reputable new car dealer.

"All members of the Toronto Automobile Dealers' Association offer manufacturers' leases with full disclosure, where the cost of borrowing, mileage restrictions, the capital- or actual cost of the vehicle on which the lease rates are based and the optional purchase price at the end of the lease are completely spelled out," Riley emphasizes.

Full disclosure enables prospective buyers to compare the advantages and drawbacks of a lease deal to a standard financing arrangement.

"Keep in mind that typical leases today tend to be for a shorter period of time than







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## Sports

han since he bought the club. But he recently renewed his pledge to make the franchise work. He claims the Alouettes will break even if they can raise their annual corporate sponsorship income to \$2.5 million from about \$2 million currently, and add 4,000 seats to Molson Stadium—the league's smallest venue. CFL officials are amused at what Wetherall and Smith have achieved. "They started almost from ground zero and started selling tickets by ticket and corporation by corporation," says CFL president and chief operating officer Jeff Gilts. "They're doing it one brick at a time, just like we are."

Luck played a role. Montreal officials trace the current success in part to a scheduling conflict in 1997 at Olympic Stadium. The 56,245-seat east-end arena had been booked for a rock concert by the band U2 on a date when the Alouettes were slated to play an eastern division playoff game. As an alternative venue, Smith opted for McGill University's Molson Stadium, a dilapidated facility in need of major renovation—in one crumbling section, a maple tree protruded through the stands. More than 16,000 fans turned out for that game and, Smith says, "it didn't take a rocket scientist" to figure out the club should relocate. The Als have since spent \$550,000 refurbishing the facility, and two years later, football is a hot ticket.

Montreal's fortunes mirror those of the CFL—the league, after all, barely debuted in 1996. "We made it very hard to be a CFL fan," says Gilts, "because people wanted to believe in us but we did all kinds of things to lose their trust." But under the volunteer chairmanship of John Tory, president and CEO of Rogers Cable Systems Ltd., the CFL has regained strongly in the past two years by adhering to stringent cost controls, including player salary caps. This year alone, overall attendance has climbed 10.5 per cent, spurred by better matchups in key markets such as Vancouver and Toronto. And for the second year in a row, ratings on The Sports Network have soared—by 37 per cent this season so far—while its Friends League affil-

ies, RDS, reports a whopping 94-per-cent rise in viewership.

But also like the Montreal team, the CFL still isn't in the black. It lost nearly \$10 million last year, almost entirely because of losses posted by the Toronto Argonauts, B.C. Lions and the Toronto Argonauts. Gilts says the CFL needs another \$4 million to \$8 million in annual corporate sponsorships to survive, and he is not ruling out another attempt to re-

locating part fans in ways better than a winning team, and Montreal has that, too. The surprising Als lead the eastern division despite an erratic offense. "We have yet to play 60 minutes of really good football like we need to do in order to get to the Grey Cup," running back Mike Pringle, the league's MVP last year, said prior to the Ticino game. They did that against Hamilton—even without aquad starting quarterback



Pringle looking for running route: an erratic offense heckled by a tough defense

passed into the United States—although that "still first and foremost on our minds." Instead, he expects more Canadian expansion, including a team in Ottawa to replace the failed Rough Riders. The move mirrors of US expansion makes some observers shudder. "I get nervous when I hear that," says Michael Gosselin, a partner at Lang & Associates, a Toronto associate marketing firm. "I think you're starting to get outside your zone of expertise."

With its modest stadium and grassroots marketing approach, Montreal, in fact, might be a model for the league. Part of the league's attraction is that it is an arena of amateur athletes, firm say they can better relate to CFL players who earn an average of only \$43,000, yet still go all-out on the field. Still,

Tracy Ham, the Als' oldest and most successful player, and his defense, which in previous years was judged a possible weakness, now ranks as one of the best.

So the Grey Cup may be a realistic goal. "To that end, the players want to capture first place so that the national will be played on their home field. It's a way to see who's the stadium lacks in numbers, it makes up for in enthusiasm." Freeman George O'Reilly, 48, bought season tickets in a corner section near the end zone. "I just wish there were 10,000 or 15,000 more seats so more people could enjoy it." O'Reilly said during last week's game. "It's spectacular." Smith and Wetherall would like the season from extra seats, too, but for the Alouettes right now, seat sales power to be beautiful. ■



Maguire and Steve Urich, who are fighting for the Bushwickers, a band of non-uniformed marauders riding Union troops in Museum, Taiwanese director Ang Lee—who exploded June Austen's England in *Sense and Sensibility* and Severan



Maguire, Jewell and Urich, non-uniformed screeners

shows once again that he has an uncanny ability to frame a time and place far beyond his own experience.

*Ride with the Devil* is both a war movie and a western, and Lee defines both genres with striking originality. As a western, it is the most radical reinvention of the genre since *Unforgotten*. Lee has crafted an intimate epic, permeated by scenes of spectacular and chaotic violence, but mostly made up of long stretches of extraordinary dialogue among the young men who are living as outcasts in their own land. James Schamus' elegant script re-creates the arctic voice of the South with an almost Shakespearean cadence. This is a drama about outlaw civility in civil war, and an adventure about heroes, mud and gangsters. Of course, there is a woman in the thick of it, played by the top star Jewell. She is no Willie Ryan. But she is surprisingly credible as the homespun farm girl who also Maguire's character if he is still a virgin. (Non-plussed, he replies "You killed 15 men.")

With his performance in *Ride with the Devil*, Maguire shows that he may well be The New Big Thing. He may not have the terminal cadence of his friend Leonardo DiCaprio—the actor made cinema originally wanted for the role before Lee found a new studio—but he conveys an irresistible honesty on-screen. As the girlless Everyman, he is like a young Tom Hanks. Lee, who also cast him in *The Ice Storm*, says "There's something about him that's innocent and sincere. A composer would want to use a clarinet as his instrument. And he believes in what he's doing. Not many actors believe in what they're doing."

Maguire also makes an impact in *The Cider House Rules*, the long-over-

adaptation of John Irving's 1985 novel. Again, he plays a heroic naïf, a wide-eyed lad named Homer who has grown up in a remote orphanage, and without formal medical training, learned to deliver babies under the tutelage of his kindly director (Michael Gambon). Set in the 1940s, Irving's idyllic tale shows Homer from the orphanage to strawberry farm, where he falls in love with a woman (Charlotte Thorne) whose boyfriend is fighting overseas.

Plans to film *The Cider House Rules* were passed down through three directors—including the late Canadian filmmaker Philip Boase (*The Grey Fox*)—until Sweden's Lasse Hallström finally brought Irving's script to the screen. The result is a slow-paced but beautifully crafted piece of old-fashioned storytelling, in which apple-cheeked romance is underpinned by a bold exploration of abortion.

Meanwhile, Woody Allen has tried to put some new spirit in his step with *Sweet and Lowdown*. *Like Judy* (1993), it is a comic biography of a fictional character, in this case a legendary jazz guitarist played by Sean Penn. The movie comes as a welcome tonic after the world's self-parody of Alvin Karpis' recent work. Penn's character is clearly a surrogate for Allen, the misanthropic, Gershwin-loving artist. But unlike so many others before him, Penn does not fall into the trap of imitating the director's own persona. He gives a successful performance, proving that even in the most whorled-out piece of fluff he is the most substantial actor of his generation.

While American movies dominated the festival gala program, a number of strong films emerged from Europe. Hanses Truffe, a swirling horror drama

from British writer-director Justin Kerrigan, raises an exhilarating risk through time culture. Following a gang of ecstasy-popping friends through one night of partying in Cardiff, it is a carnival of witty asides, fantasy sequences, stoned rants and inventive visuals. *House Truffe* is this year's *Thelma & Louise*, but without the noisy bias.

On a darker note, British director Mike Figgis (*Leaving Las Vegas*) returns to the theme of obsessive self-destruction in a fine-tuned adaptation of August Strindberg's *Miss Julie*. Peter Mullan and Saffron Burrows create exquisite friction as the footman and the lady who break class lines. Meanwhile, British actor Tim Roth makes a powerful directorial debut with *The War Zone*, a harrowing tale of father-daughter incest on the Devon coast.

Roth's movie includes a graphic scene of the father molesting the daughter—which prompted one man in the audience at the premiere to scream, "Is this really necessary?" then walk out. Roth, who spent an hour answering questions afterward, insisted it was. He said victims of incest would have seen the film have said they would have walked out if they had not done the crime.

Explicit portraits of sexuality on-screen seem to be on the rise. The taboo against showing erections is broken in Italy's *La donna leghia*, and in *Renegade*, from French director Catherine Breillat—which will be one of the first commercially distributed movies in North America with explicit hard-core footage. But there is nothing pornographic about *A Persian Affair*, from Belgian director Philippe Van Parijs. It is the best kind of romance, an enthralling story of two strangers who meet every week for an extended sexual fantasy and are slowly awakened by the reality of love. It is a *Les Tignes in Paris* for grown-ups in the '90s, a movie where nothing exists outside the club and the hotel room where they meet—a movie that leaves the world behind. □

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Allan Fotheringham

## Getting to know George W

One of the greatest of the current puzzles of life is the case of George W. Bush, son of the former president. A thin seed of a thinker, he has been in elected politics for only five years. And he is the favorite to be the next president of the only superpower left on earth.

As another inmate in gun-obsessed America marries children in a Texas church, George W. recently goes on his way in the pocket of the gun lobby. As the leading Republican candidate—all others left in the dust—for the White House, he has increased this platform called "compassionate conservatism."

No one knows what it means and the only problem is that his political record is the opposite of compassionate.

There were four men executed by lethal injection in Texas in August. By the end of October, six more inmates will have died. It's rush hour on death row in the Lone Star State. In 1999, Gov. George W.'s state will have killed a record 28 people by November, bringing the total to some 290 since Texas resumed the death penalty in 1982. It leads the nation and, for its size, the world. Compassionate conservatism? The Texas prison population has jumped from 94,000 to 143,000 during the George W. administration, which waxes out to 700 per 100,000 people.

George W. has danced around the Washington press gallery questions about his cocaine use as a college playboy and, as if by expiation, is taking it out on his fellow citizens on drugs. Danny Eassey, a Houston lawyer who heads the 400-member Harris County Criminal Defense Lawyers Association, says "He has a back-slap-up mentality, as opposed to a give-them-treatment mentality, that is very unfortunate."

Some 4,000 of the felon in state jails in 1998 were drug offenders, and 2,000 of them had been jailed for possession of a gram or less of cocaine or heroin. As could be expected, most of those are minorities and the poor, who can't afford lawyers. "They are under a lot of pressure to plead guilty and move on," says Eassey.

Of the drug felons in state jails, 58 per cent are black, 17 per cent are Hispanic, 23 per cent are white. After his first election as governor, "Dubya"—as he's fondly known down there—almost tripled the number of inmates in state juvenile prisons, lowering the age at which juveniles can be sent to adult court and increasing the maximum sentence for youthful offenders to 40 years.



You want compassion? George W. signed a bill that lowers Texas criteria to carry concealed weapons. He signed bill that bans Texas cases from using gun manufacturers.

Rodney Ellis, a state senator from Houston, sponsored bill that passed both the Republican-controlled Senate and the Democratic-controlled House. All it said was that indigent defendants be assigned a lawyer within 20 days after an arrest. (In most of the United States, a lawyer is provided within 72 hours.) George W. as governor vetoed the bill.

The point is that the justice system in Texas is a joke. The state has no public defender system. The Southern Center for Human Rights, an Atlanta-based organization, has found that "in recent years the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals has upheld death sentences in at least three cases in which the defense lawyers slept during trial." In one case, the judge ruled that "the constitution doesn't say the lawyer has to be awake."

Often indigent defendants in Texas remain in jail for months before they even see a lawyer. Some see their lawyers for the first time on the day of trial. Which is why they sleep.

At least four people—Barrett Dade Adams, Clarence Earl Brantley, Ricardo Aldape Garcia and Federico Martinez-Muñoz—have been sprung from death row after journalists or volunteer lawyers proved their innocence through investigations.

George W., who admits he had a problem with the girls and at least had a drink for 15 years while dancing around the cocaine question, is like all reformed people—religious or alcoholics or such. He's gonna prove how tough he is.

He ran against his predecessor, Ann Richards, on being "soft on crime." In 1990, the parole board appointed by Richards granted parole to 79 per cent of eligible inmates. This year, a Bush-appointed board pushed that down to a historic low of 16 per cent.

When another nut, Buford O'neal Farrow Jr., gained down those inmates in a Los Angeles Jewish community center, one of his customs-made suits often was tried to a company in Miami owned by one Richard Dylis. Richard Dylis owns Balthusmeyer Firearms—and was Dubya's state finance director in Miami. When he flew down to Texas to have lunch with the governor, he was introduced as a "businessman." He is no longer with George W. Now that's what we call compassion.

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